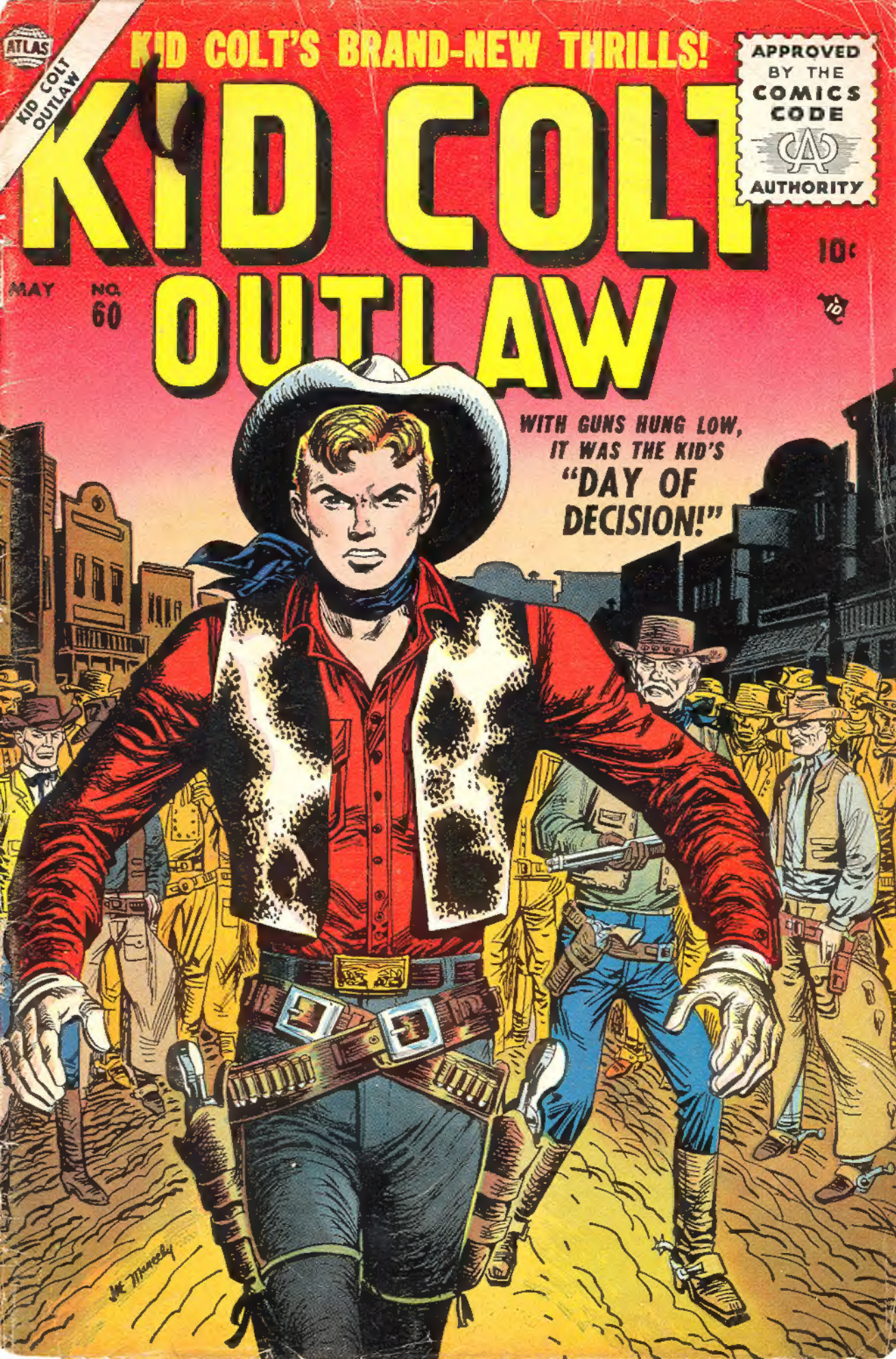
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KID COLT'S BRAND-NEW THRILLS!
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WITH GUNS HUNG LOW, IT WAS THE KID'S "DAY OF DECISION!"

SAY HEY, DAVY CROCKETT!

Here's a tent to have fun in!

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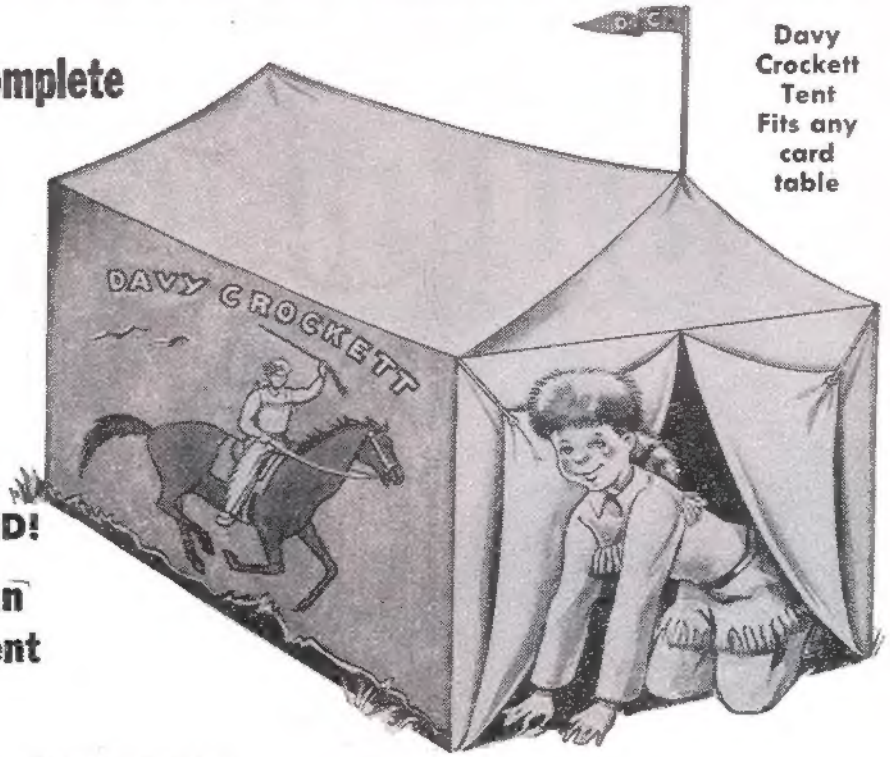

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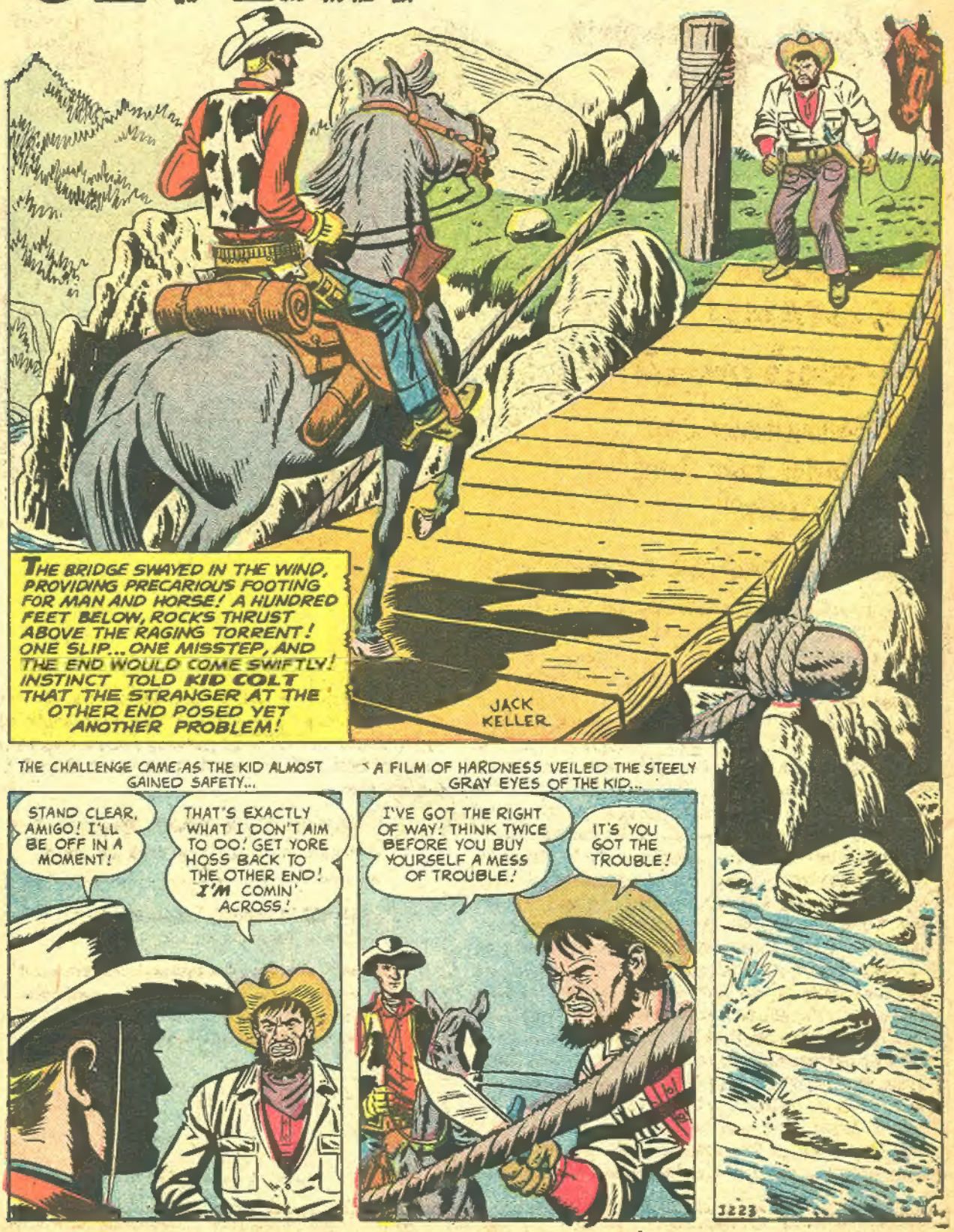
KID COLT OUTLAW IN "THE CHALLENGE!"

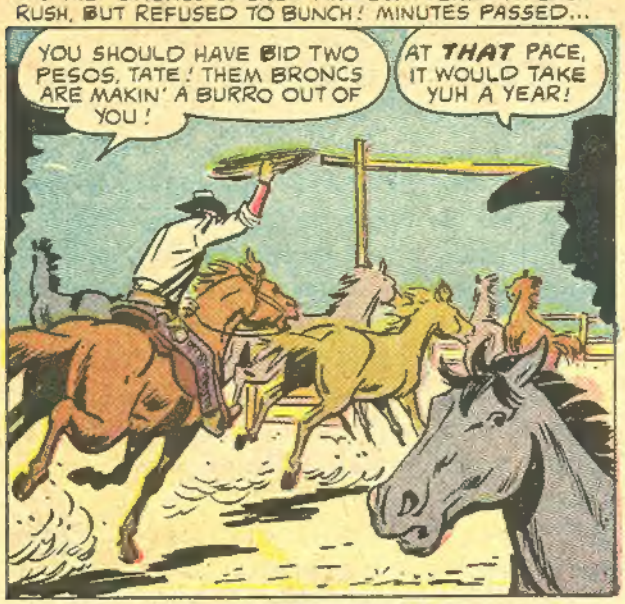

THE BRIDGE SWAYED IN THE WIND, PROVIDING PRECARIOUS FOOTING FOR MAN AND HORSE! A HUNDRED FEET BELOW, ROCKS THRUST ABOVE THE RAGING TORRENT! ONE SLIP...ONE MISSTEP, AND THE END WOULD COME SWIFTLY! INSTINCT TOLD KID COLT THAT THE STRANGER AT THE OTHER END POSED YET ANOTHER PROBLEM!
JACK KELLER
THE CHALLENGE CAME AS THE KID ALMOST GAINED SAFETY...
STAND CLEAR, AMIGO! I'LL BE OFF IN A MOMENT!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I DON'T AIM TO DO! GET YORE HOSS BACK TO THE OTHER END! I'M COMIN' ACROSS!
A FILM OF HARDNESS VEILED THE STEELY GRAY EYES OF THE KID...
I'VE GOT THE RIGHT OF WAY! THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU BUY YOURSELF A MESS OF TROUBLE!
IT'S YOU GOT THE TROUBLE!
3223

THE KID MOVED WITH DISCIPLINED COOLNESS...
EASY, STEEL! BACK UP, BOY... EASY DOES IT! KEEP TO THE CENTER!
IT TOOK STEEL NERVES AND SUPERB TRAINING FOR MAN AND HORSE, BUT MINUTES LATER...
YOU'RE SAFE NOW, STEEL! BACK UP, BOY!
YOU, THERE! KEEP CLEAR OF THE BRIDGE AND THE LINES! NO TRICKS!
NOW YUH KNOW... WHEN DAGGER TATE GIVES AN ORDER, YUH BETTER JUMP!
SUDDENLY, THE KID'S HANDS FILLED WITH ROARING SIX-GUNS...
NOW LET'S GET THAT MATTER OF RIGHT OF WAY STRAIGHTENED OUT! LEAVE YOUR HORSE AND GET BACK ON THAT BRIDGE!
I SHOULD HAVE SLICED THOSE ROPES WHILE YOU WERE CROSSING!
YOU TESTED ME AND MY HORSE MOVING BACKWARDS ON THIS BRIDGE! NOW, YOU BACK ACROSS!
L-LET ME GO! I'LL FALL OFF FOR SURE!
SLOWLY, THE HOODLUM BACKED ACROSS THE SWAYING BRIDGE...
IT'S EASIER FOR YOU THAN IT WAS FOR MY HORSE! MAYBE YOU'LL THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU RISK ANOTHER MAN'S LIFE NEXT TIME!
2

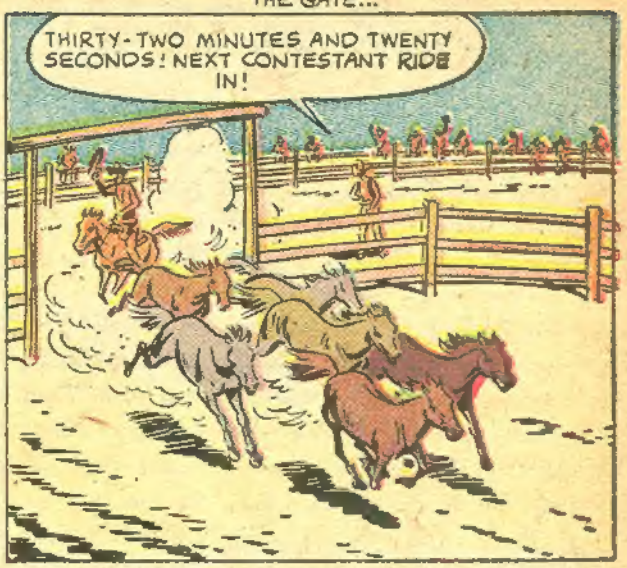
WE'RE GOIN' TO MEET AGAIN, MISTER!
ON A BRIDGE OR ON A STREET, I'LL TAKE YOU ON WITH PLEASURE!
MY HOSS IS ON THE OTHER SIDE!
THAT'S A RIGHT SMART OBSERVATION!
WE'LL MEET AGAIN AN' WHEN WE DO YOU'LL BE RESTIN' ON BOOT HILL!
IF YOU EVER COME LOOKIN' FOR ME, THE NAME IS KID COLT!
IT WAS A WEEK LATER, AT THE ANNUAL BRONC ROUNDUP IN CROCKETT CITY!
WE'RE COMBINING BIDS TO FILL THE NEEDS OF THE Z-BAR-Y, THE LAZY O AND THE CIRCLE COLT! A TOTAL OF THREE HUNDRED WILD BRONCS ARE NEEDED!
WAL, START THE BIDDIN'!
BRONC RO IP DAY
AUCTION TODAY
START THE BIDDING! LOW BID GETS A WARRANTEED CONTRACT TO BRING IN THE WILD BRONCS!
TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS A HEAD, AN' THERE WON'T BE NO SWAYBACK CAYUSES AMONG 'EM!
MIX WITH THE CROWD AN' KEEP MY BID SAFE! IF ANYBODY TRIES TO BEAT IT, YUH KNOW WHAT TO DO!
TWENTY DOLLARS A HEAD!
COME ON, BOYS! START MAKING SOME REASONABLE BIDS! DO I HEAR FIFTEEN?

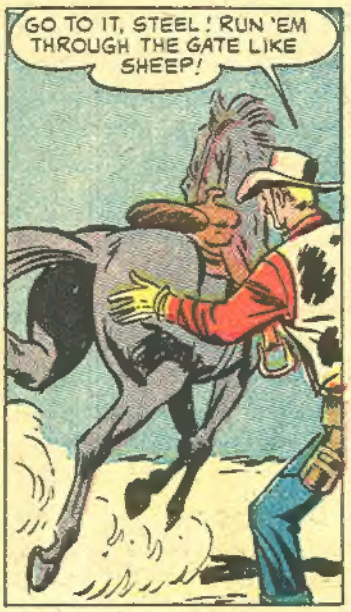
I'LL BEAT THAT LAST BID! I BID...HUH?
MUZZLE YORE MOUTH!
DAGGER TATE'S LOW BID OF TWENTY DOLLARS STOOD UNCHALLENGED..
COME ON NOW, BOYS! YOU KNOW TWENTY DOLLARS A HEAD IS HIGHWAY ROBBERY! WHO'LL SAY FIFTEEN? SPEAK OUT!
KNOCK IT OFF TO ME AT TWENTY!
SUDDENLY, A VOICE RANG OUT LOUD AND CLEAR...
TEN DOLLARS A HEAD, TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!
TEN DOLLARS IT IS? THE BID IS WON BY THE YOUNG COWPOKE WITH THE HONEST FACE!
YOU MADE YOUR LAST BID YUH... OWWW!
IT'S YOU AGAIN!
MAKE YOUR MOVE, TATE!
WAIT! TATE, CAN YOU MATCH THIS HOMBRE'S BID?
I'LL MATCH IT AN' LET THE BID BE HANDED TO THE MAN WHO SHOWS HIS COLORS IN THE CORRAL ON A BUNCH OF BRONCS!
...A TENSE CROWD RINGED THE CORRAL TO WATCH TWO MEN TEST THEIR SKILL AGAINST A HERD OF WILD BRONCS..
PUT YORE SKILL WHERE YORE MOUTH IS, TATE! YOU GOTTA GET 'EM ALL AT ONCE, NOT SCATTER 'EM!
4

THE WILY BRONCS BALKED AND SCATTERED AT EACH RUSH, BUT REFUSED TO BUNCH! MINUTES PASSED...

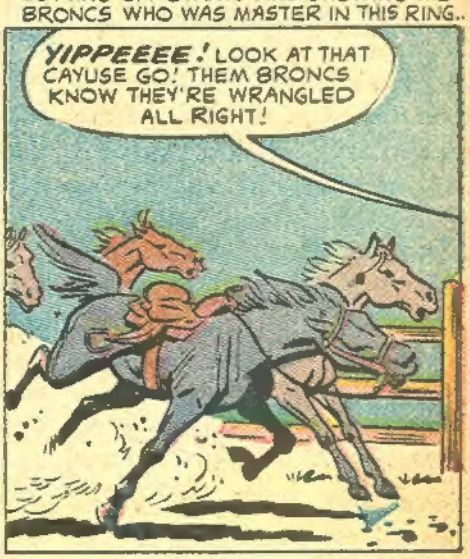


HALF AN HOUR LATER, WITH A SUDDEN SWEEP, DAGGER TATE HERDED THE BRONCS THROUGH THE GATE...

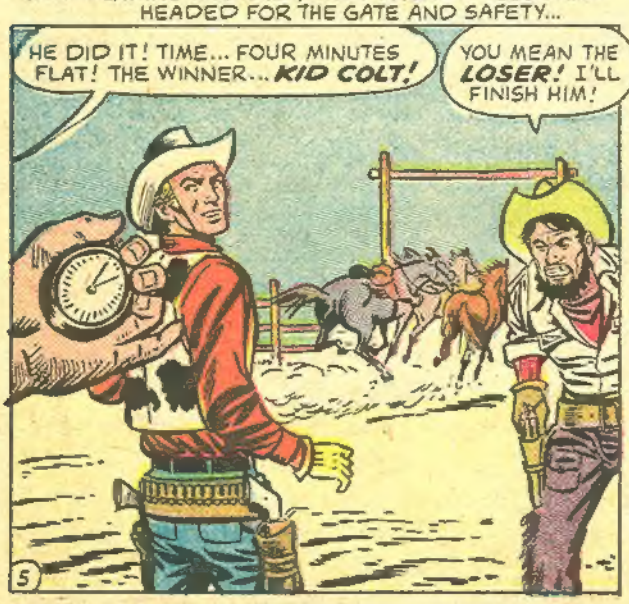




THE GREAT STALLION CIRCLED SWIFTLY, CUTTING OFF STRAYS AND SHOWING THE BRONCS WHO WAS MASTER IN THIS RING..



WITH FLARING NOSTRILS, THEY PACKED CLOSE AND HEADED FOR THE GATE AND SAFETY...



THE KID HAD HARDLY DRAWN WHEN THE MIGHTY STALLION SWEPT TO HIS MASTER'S AID!

RANGE CHANGE

AT precisely twenty minutes of nine, old Gilly Hanks the mailman, came over the west rise in his little brown wagon and meandered slowly down into the valley that held the Tangled W ranch. Leaning back as the wagon went on, he worked at sorting the mail for the Tangled W. There was a batch for the bunkhouse boys and two or three rural route ads for big Joe Wendel, owner of the Tangled W; there was also a letter for Joe stamped with the postmark of a big city on the eastern seaboard. The sway-back halted at the gate of the ranchyard; old Gilly tinkled a bell set under the wagon seat. A moment later, the yard swarmed with bunkhouse boys and all three members of the Wendel family household.

"Well, for gosh sakes," Joe Wendel said as the post wagon drove away. "It's a letter from Uncle Bill back east!"

His son, Frank and Mrs. Wendel crowded round as Joe opened the letter and read it. Uncle Bill Wendel and his brother Tom were the Wendel family's closest relations back east.

"Listen to this: 'Dear Joe and family. Brother Tom's health has declined somewhat, and his doctors are sending him West. The problem is to get Tom to stay there for a couple of years, at least. You know he always thought the West was too dull to visit for more than a week. Anyway, since you invited him out last year, he's coming out by train for a short visit, after which he'll make other arrangements. Expect him Friday. Regards, Uncle Bill'." Joe looked up from the letter. "Friday! That's tomorrow. Kinda short notice."

"Well, Joe," Mrs. Wendel said soothingly, "we did invite Bill and Tom out for a visit. I reckon it doesn't matter much *when* Tom comes. He won't be in the way . . . and he won't have to worry about earning a living."

"Not Tom," her husband agreed. "He's got enough money to choke a cayuse. But that's the trouble. He always did figure that if a thing didn't give him the excitement that chasing after money did, it wasn't worth having."

Promptly at seven o'clock the next morning, Joe Wendel set out for the railroad station at Butteburg, in the family buckboard. He reached Butteberg by eight-thirty, stopped for coffee and then rode up to the station just before the train bearing Tom was due in.

When it arrived, just one person got off . . . Uncle Tom Wendel. He was big and jovial, though a bit on the nervous side. Joe decided the trouble *was* probably nerves. But Tom scoffed a little at that, as they rode back to the Tangled W.

"Nerves . . . maybe!" he said. "Main trouble is I need excitement. Why, Joe, I'm rarin' to go. And now that I've got to stay out here for a while. I'm thinkin' of makin' this range hum!"

"How do you figure to do it?" Joe Wendel asked.

"I'll show you," Tom said. "I've been checking up on this region by correspondence, and there's opportunities none of you folks have even taken advantage of." He smiled again. "Well, I'm not sayin' what I'm goin' to do, but it'll be exciting before I'm through. How's that cattle ranch of yours gettin' on?"

"Pretty well," Joe said. "Talk about excitin' things, Uncle Tom, there's nothing that demands more responsibility than cattle-ranching, nothing more excitin'!"

"I doubt that," Tom said with an air of authority. "Just a matter of herdin' steers, isn't it?"

"It's a lot more than that," began Joe in protest, but his uncle waved his words aside.

"I know what it is," he said. "I've read about it. And it's not for me. Too dull. I'm aimin' at something important!"

Next morning, Uncle Tom mounted the cayuse Joe assigned to him and insisted on setting out alone.

"Now I wonder why he's doing that?" Joe Wendel commented to his wife, as Tom rode off toward the north. "Nothin' much important up there. Lots of good homestead land, but . . ."

"I'll keep an eye on him, pa," his son Frank, said. I'm helping wrangle some of the north herd today." He headed out for the barn, and about fifteen minutes later, had joined the small group of bunkhouse boys wending their way north.

After supper that evening, Frank spoke quietly to his father.

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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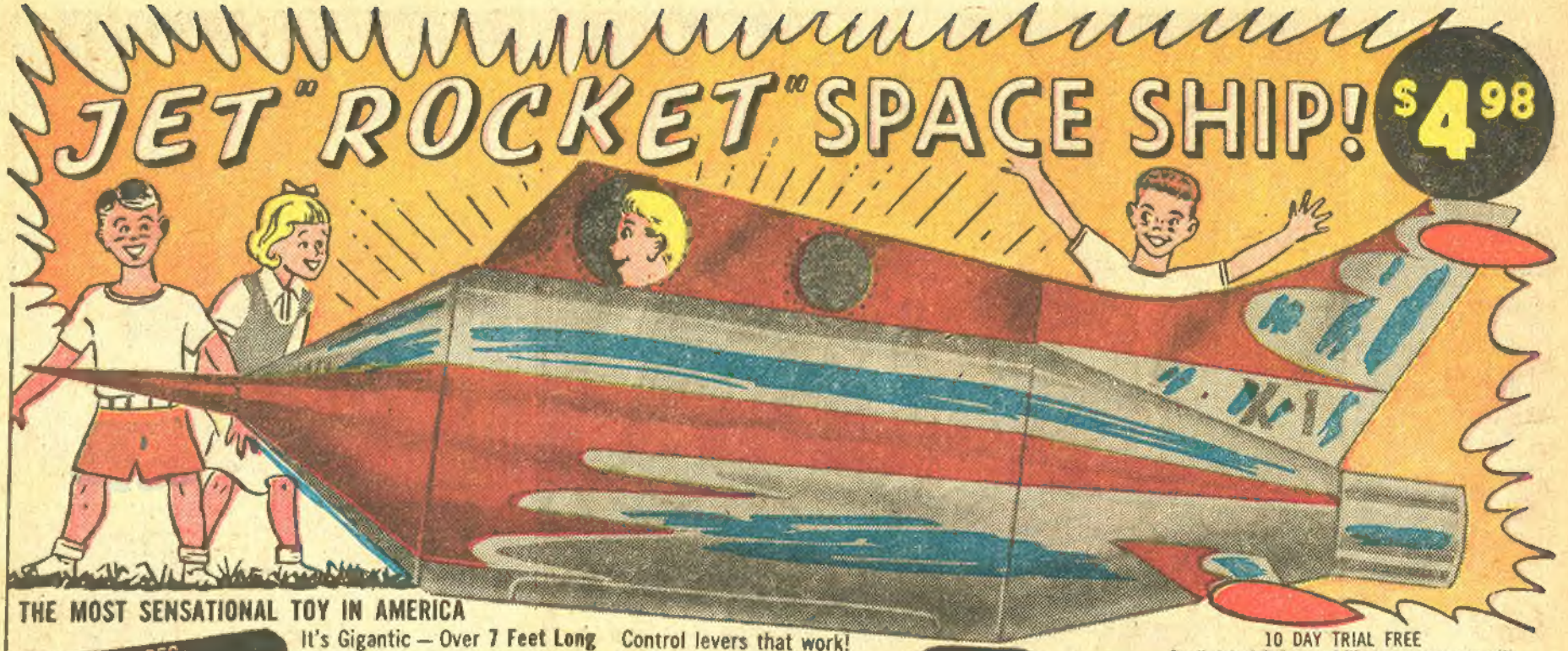

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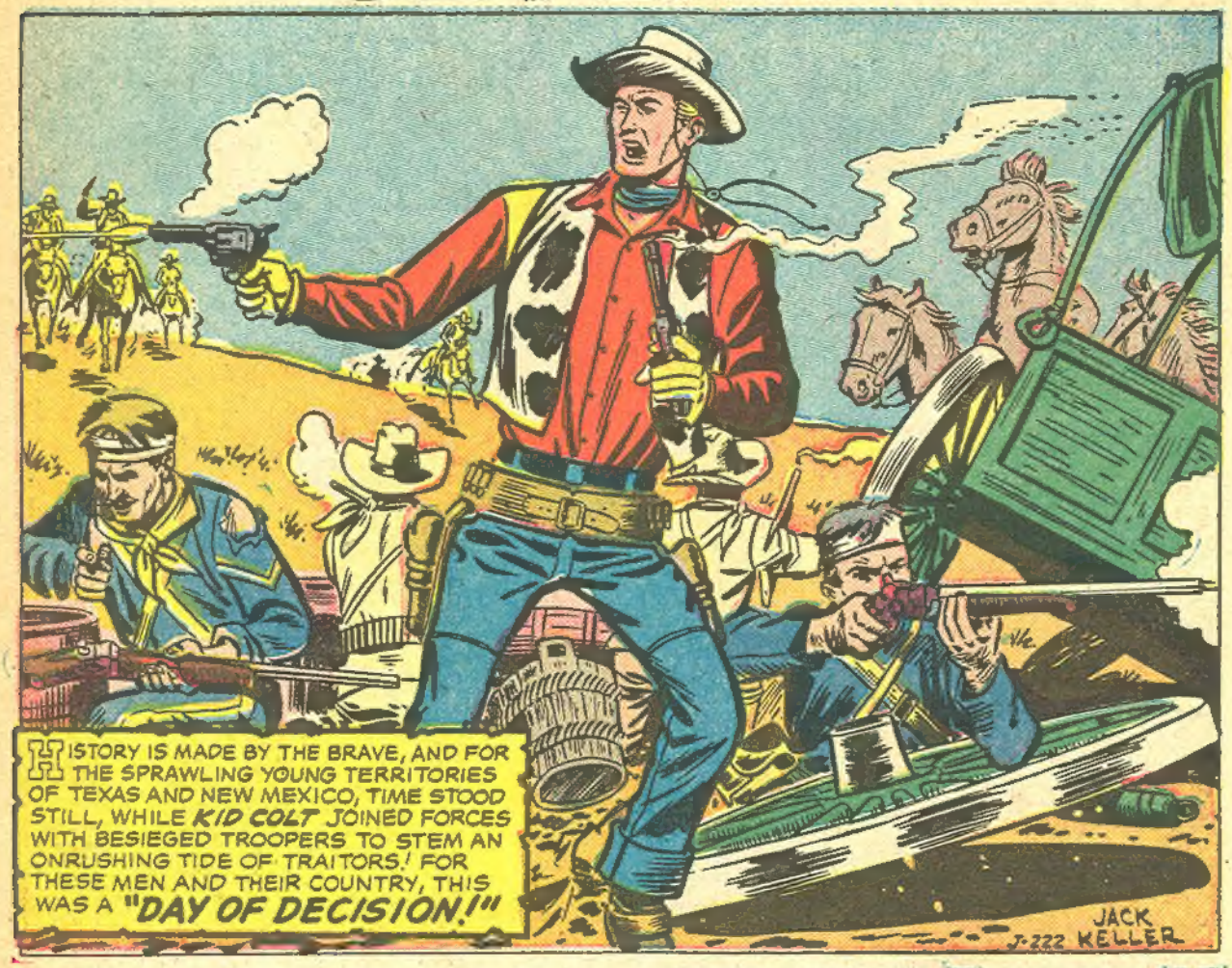
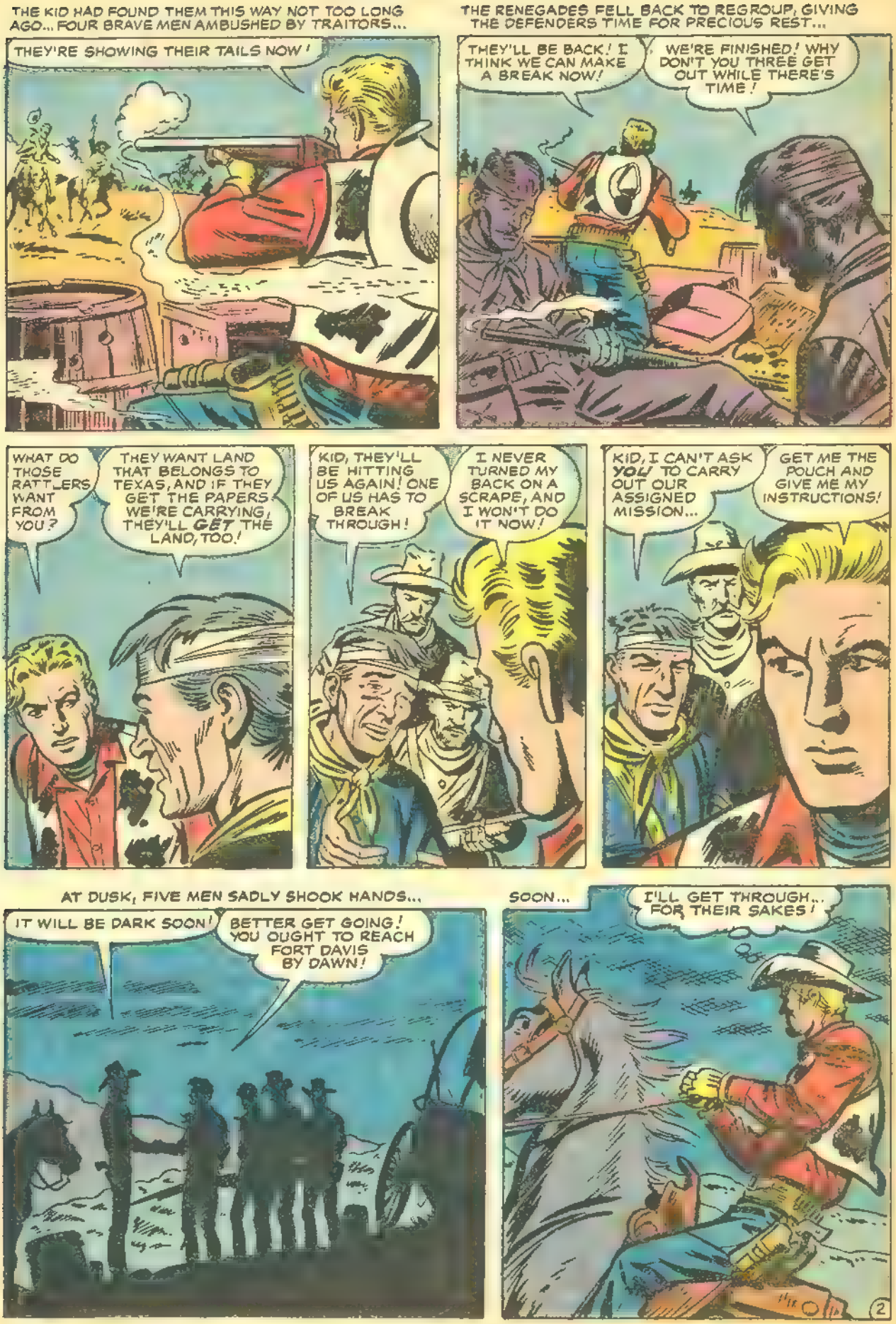
KID COLT OUTLAW

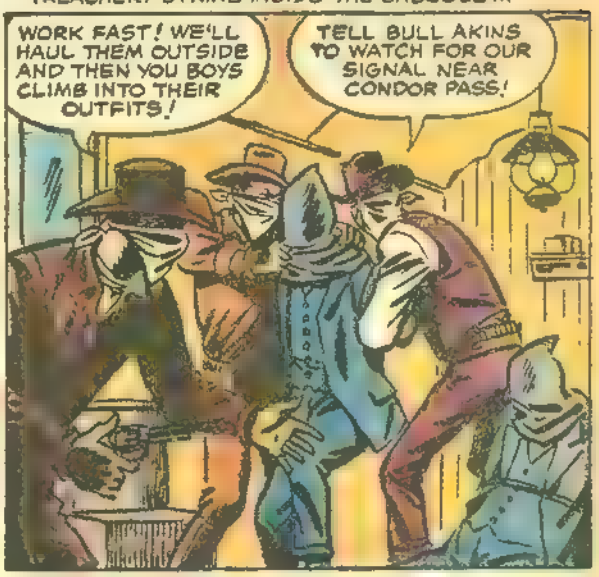

HISTORY IS MADE BY THE BRAVE, AND FOR THE SPRAWLING YOUNG TERRITORIES OF TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO, TIME STOOD STILL, WHILE KID COLT JOINED FORCES WITH BESIEGED TROOPERS TO STEM AN ONRUSHING TIDE OF TRAITORS! FOR THESE MEN AND THEIR COUNTRY, THIS WAS A "DAY OF DECISION!"
JACK KELLER
J-222

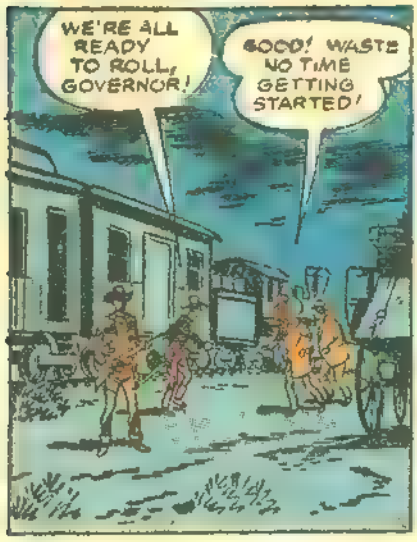
IT HAD BEEN THUS FOR ALMOST ONE HOUR, AS THE RENEGADES ATTACKED RELENTLESSLY...
MAKE EVERY SHOT COUNT!
SANDERS AND KINCAID ARE OUT OF THE FIGHT! IT'S UP TO US NOW!

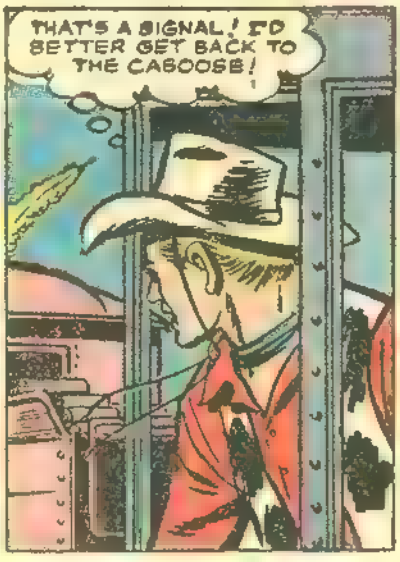

THE KID HAD FOUND THEM THIS WAY NOT TOO LONG AGO... FOUR BRAVE MEN AMBUSHED BY TRAITORS...
THEY'RE SHOWING THEIR TAILS NOW!
THE RENEGADES FELL BACK TO REGROUP, GIVING THE DEFENDERS TIME FOR PRECIOUS REST...
THEY'LL BE BACK! I THINK WE CAN MAKE A BREAK NOW!
WE'RE FINISHED! WHY DON'T YOU THREE GET OUT WHILE THERE'S TIME!
WHAT DO THOSE RATTLERS WANT FROM YOU?
THEY WANT LAND THAT BELONGS TO TEXAS, AND IF THEY GET THE PAPERS WE'RE CARRYING, THEY'LL GET THE LAND, TOO!
KID, THEY'LL BE HITTING US AGAIN! ONE OF US HAS TO BREAK THROUGH!
I NEVER TURNED MY BACK ON A SCRAPE, AND I WON'T DO IT NOW!
KID, I CAN'T ASK YOU TO CARRY OUT OUR ASSIGNED MISSION...
GET ME THE POUCH AND GIVE ME MY INSTRUCTIONS!
AT DUSK, FIVE MEN SADLY SHOOK HANDS...
IT WILL BE DARK SOON!
BETTER GET GOING! YOU OUGHT TO REACH FORT DAVIS BY DAWN!
SOON...
I'LL GET THROUGH... FOR THEIR SAKES!
2

AT DAWN, THE FOLLOWING DAY...
IDENTIFY YOURSELF AND STATE YOUR BUSINESS!
EMERGENCY BUSINESS WITH THE COMMANDANT OF THIS FORT!
MINUTES LATER, THE KID WAS TELLING HIS STORY...
THAT'S ABOUT IT, SIR! THERE ONLY WISH WAS FOR ME TO BREAK THROUGH WITH THIS POUCH!
THE FATE OF THIS NATION'S GROWTH LIES IN THAT POUCH!
TEXAS HAS AGREED TO CEDE PART OF HER TERRITORY LYING EAST OF THE RIO GRAND TO NEW MEXICO! SELFISH MEN ARE SCHEMING TO KILL THE PLAN!
THE TREATY MUST BE SIGNED TOMORROW NOON AT ELEPHANT BUTTE! IT WILL FAIL UNLESS THE GOVERNORS OF THE TWO TERRITORIES MEET THERE!
WHAT IS TO PREVENT THE OFFICIALS FROM GETTING THERE?
THOSE SEEKING SELF-GAIN! AN ARMED ESCORT FOR THE TRAIN WOULD CAUSE THE PEOPLE TO LOSE CONFIDENCE AND WOULD ATTRACT TOO MUCH ATTENTION!
WILL YOU HELP US AGAIN?
I WILL, SIR... ON ONE CONDITION! YOU MUST ALLOW ME TO ARRANGE THE TRAIN ESCORT MYSELF!
AGREED!
THANK YOU, SIR! I'LL DO MY BEST!
3

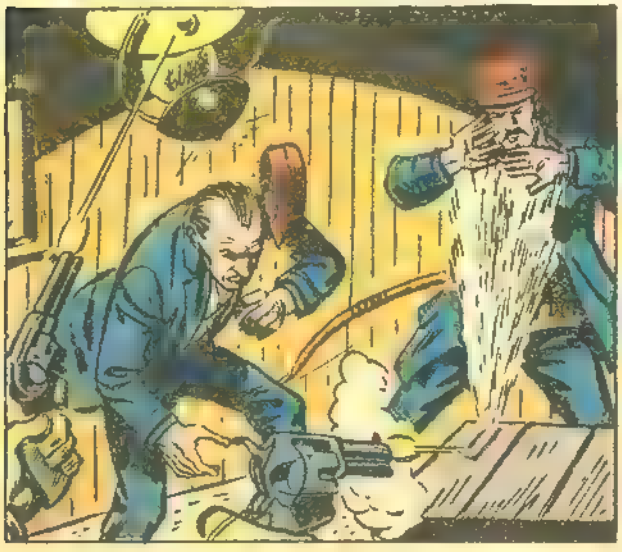
IT WAS ALMOST DUSK WHEN THE KID FINISHED CHECKING THE TRAIN...
CAPTAIN, YOU'RE SURE ABOUT THE TRAIN CREW?
EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN HAND-PICKED! THE GOVERNORS' STAGE SHOULD BE HERE SOON!
207

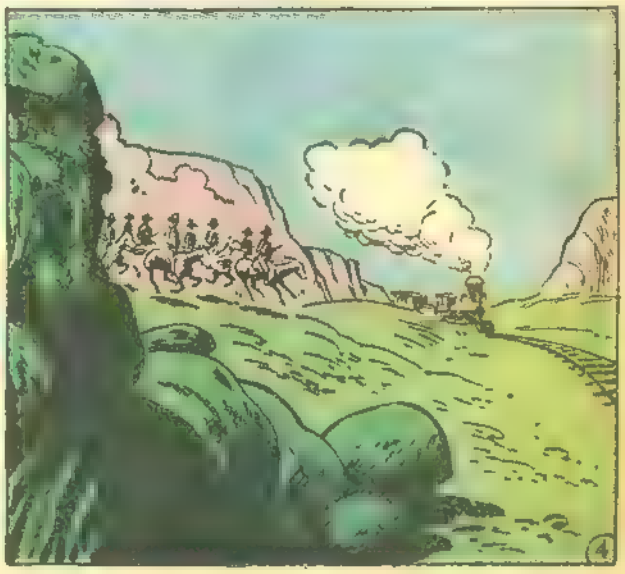

IN THE GRAY, PRE-DAWN HOURS, NO ONE SAW TREACHERY STRIKE INSIDE THE CABOOSE...
WORK FAST! WE'LL HAUL THEM OUTSIDE AND THEN YOU BOYS CLIMB INTO THEIR OUTFITS!
TELL BULL AKINS TO WATCH FOR OUR SIGNAL NEAR CONDOR PASS!


AT 5:45 A.M. A STAGE HALTED AND TWO FIGURES WERE HURRIED INTO THE TRAIN...
WE'RE ALL READY TO ROLL, GOVERNOR!
GOOD! WASTE NO TIME GETTING STARTED!

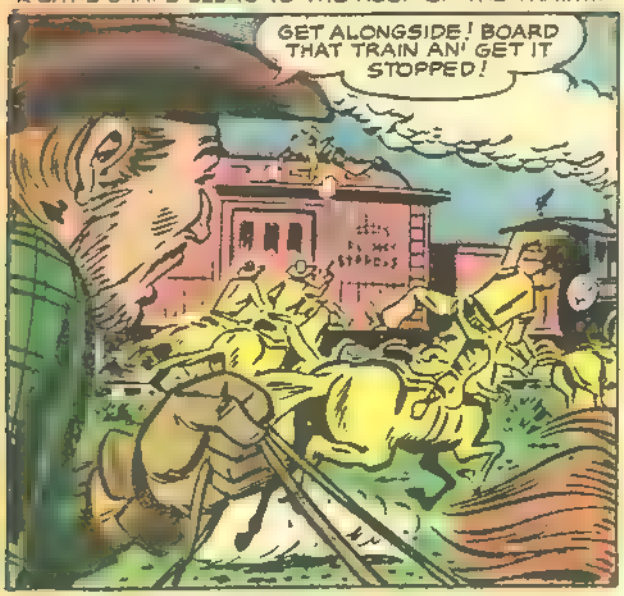

THREE HOURS AFTER THE TRAIN WAS ON ITS WAY...
THAT'S A SIGNAL! I'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE CABOOSE!

SECONDS LATER, IN THE CABOOSE...
YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING BUZZARDS! YOU'RE GETTING OFF FASTER THAN YOU GOT ON!
IT'S KID COLT! GET HIM, TULLY!

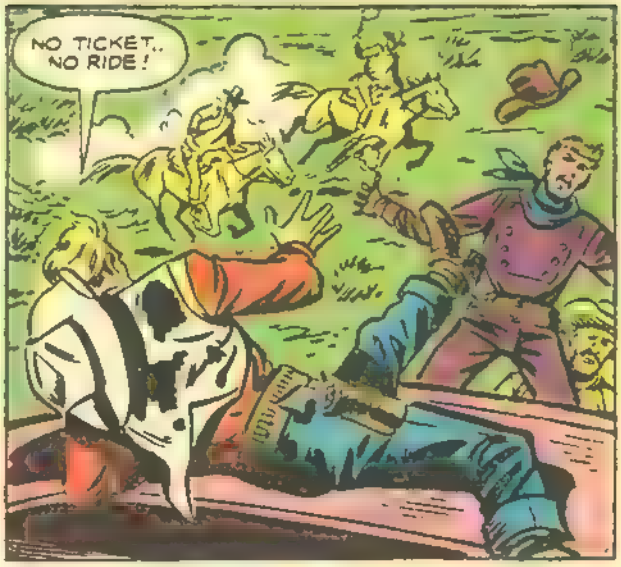

THE POWERFUL COLTS LEAPED GRACEFULLY FROM WORN HOLSTERS, THEIR MUZZLES SPITTING ANGRY FLAMES AS THEY SHOOK AND ROARED...

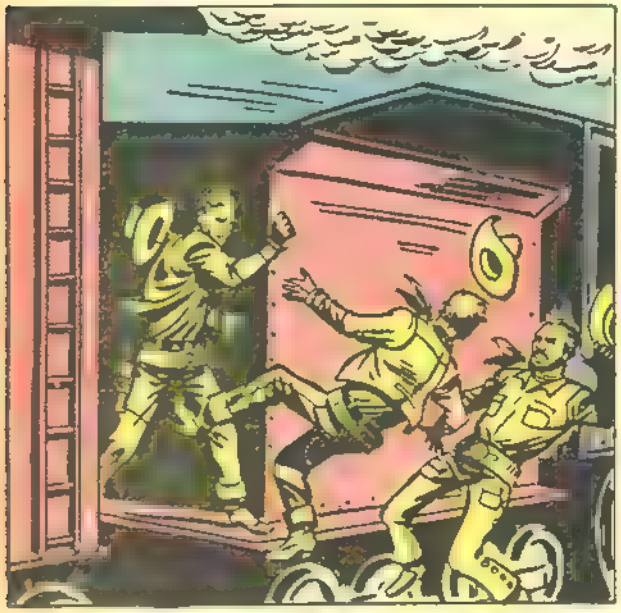

MEANWHILE, A HORDE OF GRIM RIDERS BORE DOWN ON THE SPEEDING TRAIN...
4

A LITHE SHAPE CLUNG TO THE ROOF OF THE TRAIN...

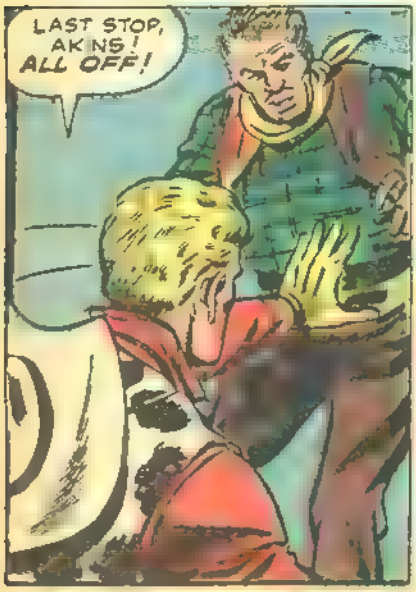


WITH NO TIME TO RELOAD, THE KID FOUGHT LIKE A TIGER!

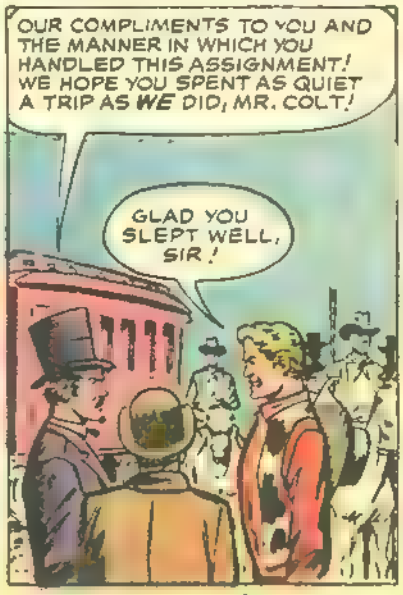




MEANWHILE, IN THE CAB...



LATER, IN ELEPHANT BUTTE...


OUR COMPLIMENTS TO YOU AND THE MANNER IN WHICH YOU HANDLED THIS ASSIGNMENT! WE HOPE YOU SPENT AS QUIET A TRIP AS WE DID, MR. COLT!
GLAD YOU SLEPT WELL, SIR!

WE COUNTED TWELVE BUZZARDS HEADING FOR TERRA FIRMA BEFORE WE LOST COUNT!
THE TERRITORY OWES MUCH TO YOU! WE WILL NOT FORGET!
THE END

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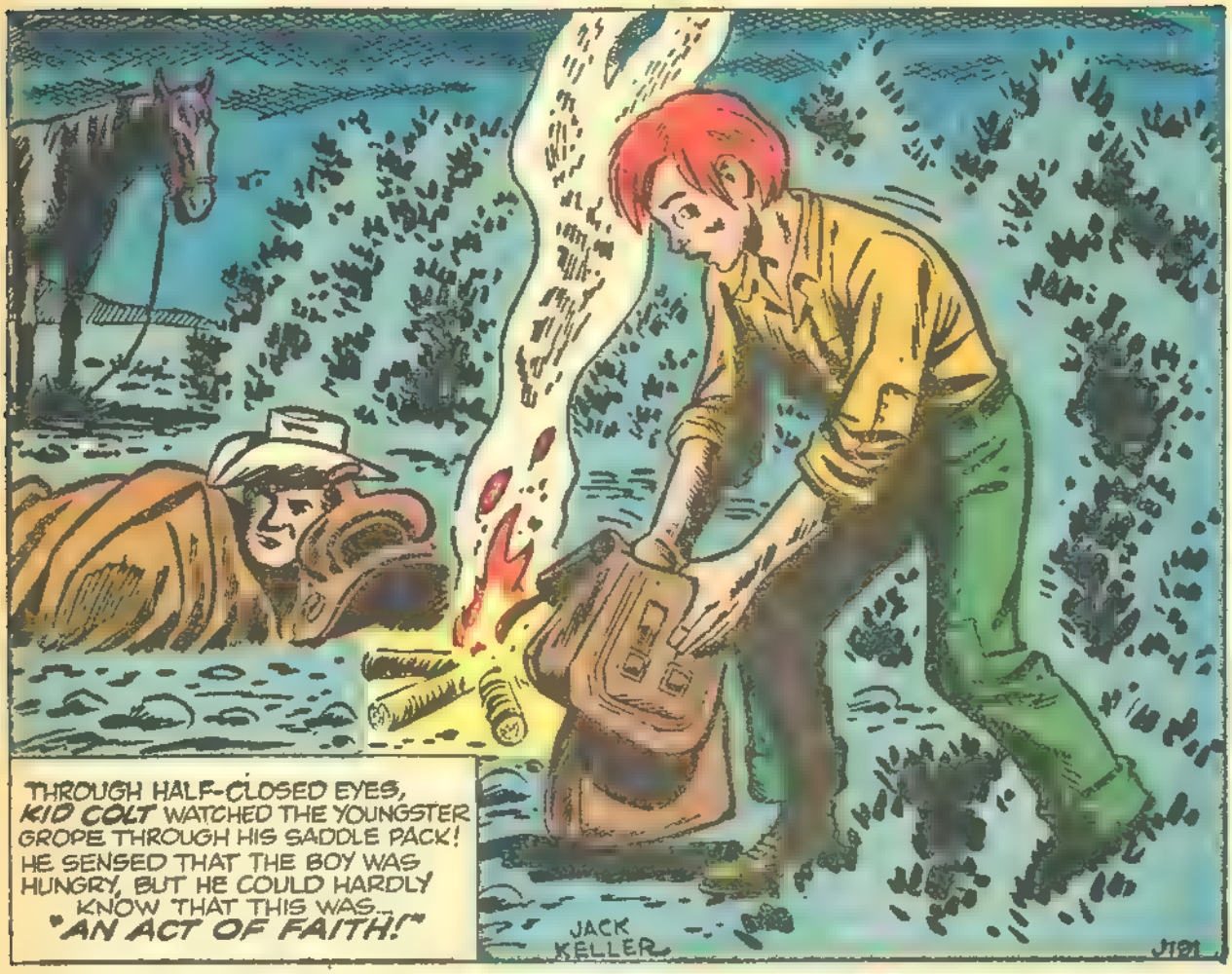
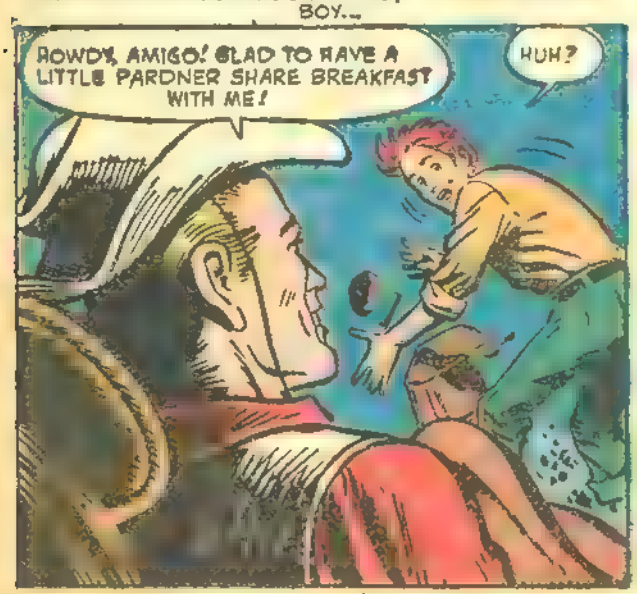
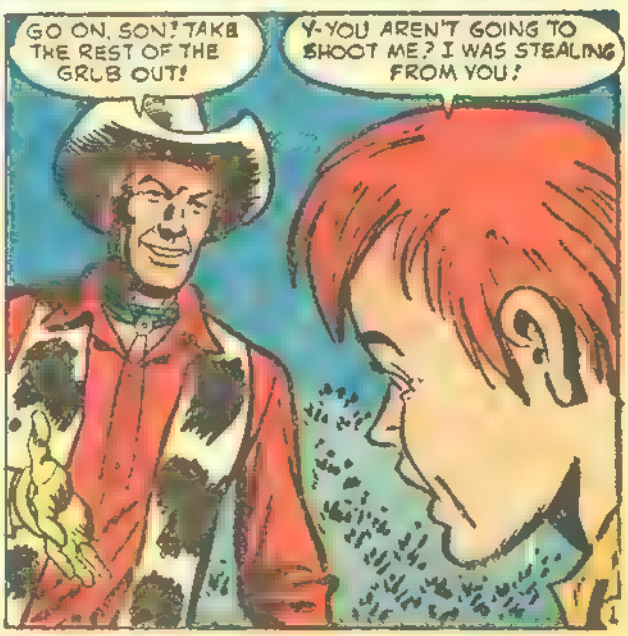
KID COLT OUTLAW


THROUGH HALF-CLOSED EYES, KID COLT WATCHED THE YOUNGSTER GROPE THROUGH HIS SADDLE PACK! HE SENSED THAT THE BOY WAS HUNGRY, BUT HE COULD HARDLY KNOW THAT THIS WAS... "AN ACT OF FAITH!"
JACK KELLER





RECKON YOU WERE JUST BORROWING SOME GRUB, THAT'S ALL!
IT WASN'T ONLY FOR ME, SIR! SOME WAS FOR MY MOM AND DAD!
THROW SOME KINDLING ON THE FIRE, WHILE I RUSTLE UP A GOOD BREAKFAST FOR US!
MY NAME'S DANNY HAYNES! DOC HAYNES IS MY DAD! WE'VE BEEN HAVING A STRETCH OF BAD LUCK!
THE KID WATCHED THE BOY EAT SPARINGLY, PUTTING ASIDE PORTIONS FOR LATER USE...
YOU SAY YOUR DAD IS A DOCTOR?
YESSIR! I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT HIM AND THEN MAYBE YOU CAN RIDE TO TOWN AND MEET HIM!
AN HOUR LATER, IN THE BORDER TOWN OF PINE BLUFF..
NANCY, THE BOY AND MYSELF HAVE HAD BAD LUCK! NOW WE'RE HEADING FOR GREENER PASTURES!
YOU'VE TREATED THE FOLKS IN PINE BLUFF FOR YEARS AND THEY DON'T PAY THEIR BILLS! I RECKON THEY DON'T APPRECIATE YOU, DOC!
WE CAN'T LIVE ON PROMISES!
THEY JUST TAKE YOU FOR GRANTED, DOC! I THINK THEY NEED SOME STIRRING UP!
HALF AN HOUR LATER...
ONE WAY TO STOP A BRAWL IS TO GET THEIR MINDS ON SOMETHING ELSE! A LITTLE MUD BATH OUGHT TO DO THE JOB!
DRAW! I'LL TEACH YUH SOME MANNERS!
YOU'LL EAT THIS MUD BEFORE WE'RE THROUGH WITH YOU!

THE KID'S GUNS WHISKED FROM WORN HOLSTERS AND SPLATTERED A PUDDLE WITH SIZZLING LEAD...
SECONDS LATER...
GET SET TO SLIDE! I AIM TO INTRODUCE YOU TO BETTER PUDDLES THAN THAT ONE!
HAUL 'EM RIGHT TO DOC HAYNES! THEY'LL BE NEEDIN' LINIMENT AS WELL AS NEW BREECHES!
I HAD ENOUGH! LET ME GO... I WANNA SEE DOC HAYNES!
ME TOO!
THOSE TWO HOMBRES ARE TAKING YOUR SUGGESTION AND HEADING FOR DOC HAYNES! DO YOU RANNIES KNOW DOC HAYNES?
WE SURE DO! HE'S A GREAT GUY! SOME-DAY I MAY PAY HIM THE MONEY I OWE HIM!
WAGON SHOP
THERE'S NO TIME TO PAY A DEBT LIKE THE PRESENT! DOC HAYNES WILL BE GLAD TO SEE YOU!
MINUTES LATER, A HUSH FELL OVER THE CROWD IN THE DIAMONDBACK CAFE . .
HOLD UP THE PLAY! I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO HEAR ME OUT!
IT'S KID COLT!
3
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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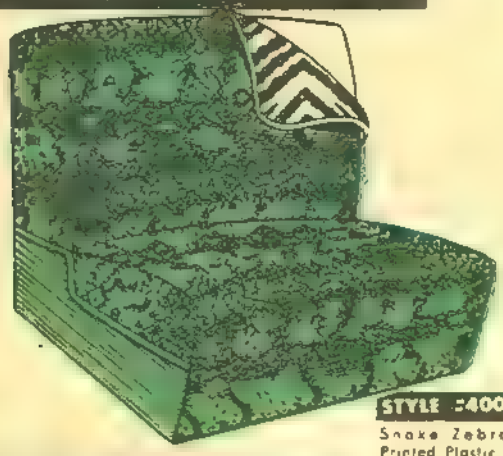
Zebra-Snake Design



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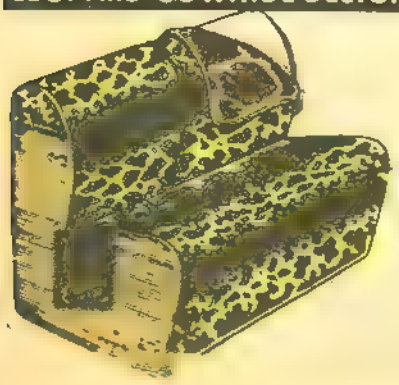

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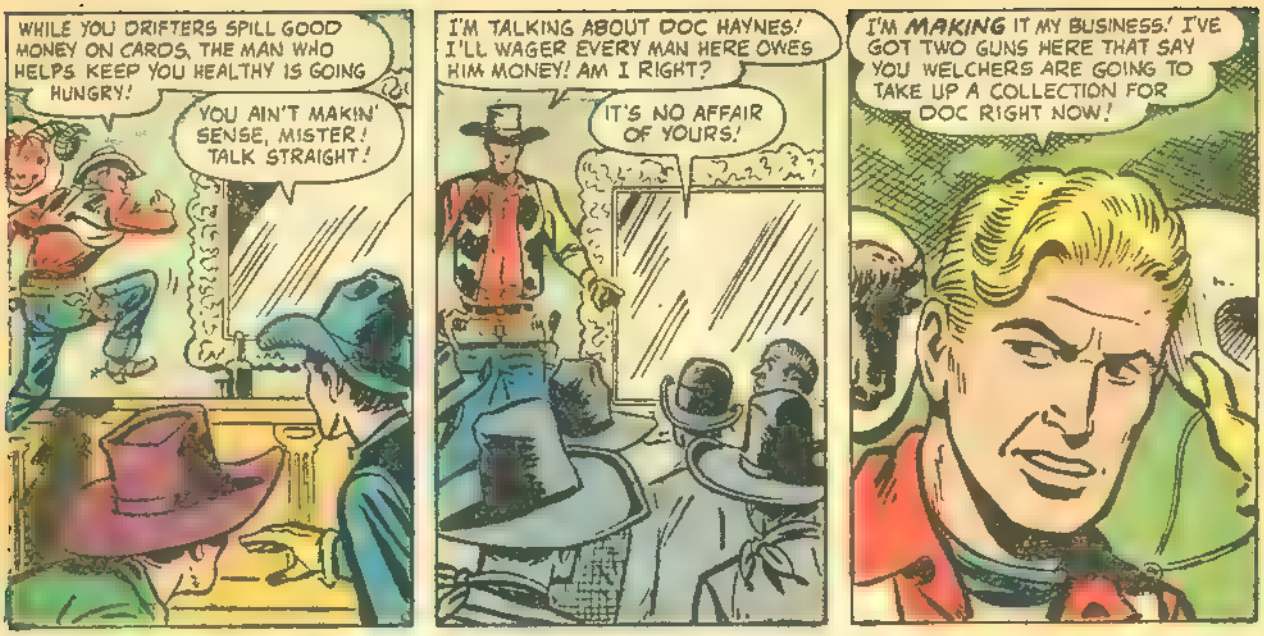

WHILE YOU DRIFTERS SPILL GOOD MONEY ON CARDS, THE MAN WHO HELPS KEEP YOU HEALTHY IS GOING HUNGRY!
YOU AIN'T MAKIN' SENSE, MISTER! TALK STRAIGHT!
I'M TALKING ABOUT DOC HAYNES! I'LL WAGER EVERY MAN HERE OWES HIM MONEY! AM I RIGHT?
IT'S NO AFFAIR OF YOURS!
I'M MAKING IT MY BUSINESS! I'VE GOT TWO GUNS HERE THAT SAY YOU WELCHERS ARE GOING TO TAKE UP A COLLECTION FOR DOC RIGHT NOW!

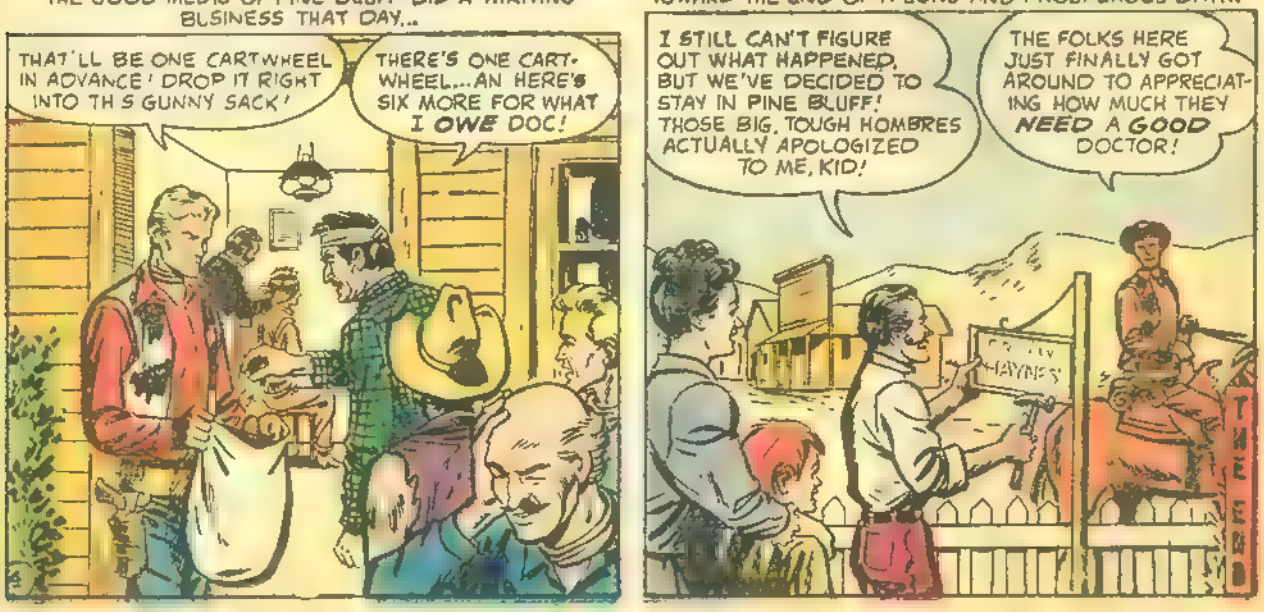
SOMEWHERE A GUN BOOMED OUT! IN THE NEXT INSTANT, A PAIR OF COLT 44'S WERE PLAYING HOB WITH EVERYTHING THAT HUNG IN THE SALOON...

EVERY MAN IN THE DIAMONDBACK CAFE NEEDED NO FURTHER URGING TO RUSH STRAIGHT OUT AND HEAD FOR THE DOC'S OFFICE!

DOC HAYNES NEEDS CASH! HE'S TAKEN CARE OF YOU HOMBRES WHEN YOU NEEDED HELP... NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!
I'M SURE THE DOC WILL BE MIGHTY PLEASED TO SEE ALL OF YOU!

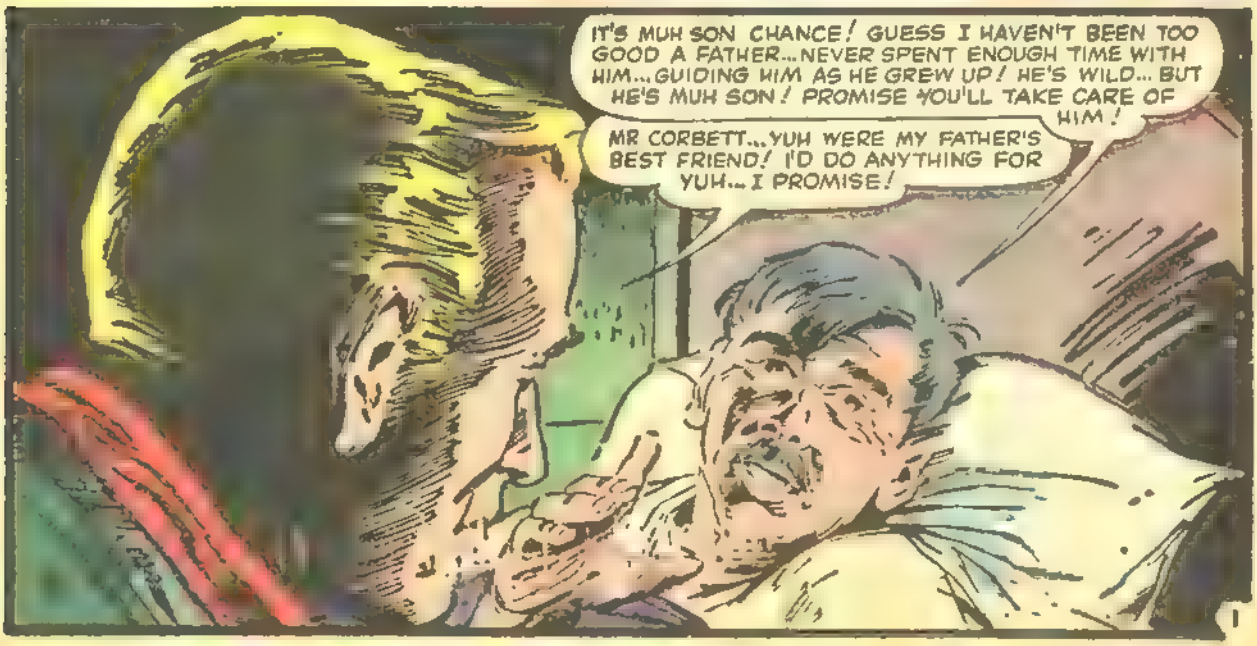
THE GOOD MEDIC OF PINE BLUFF DID A THRIVING BUSINESS THAT DAY...

TOWARD THE END OF A LONG AND PROSPEROUS DAY...


THAT'LL BE ONE CARTWHEEL IN ADVANCE! DROP IT RIGHT INTO THIS GUNNY SACK!
THERE'S ONE CARTWHEEL... AN HERE'S SIX MORE FOR WHAT I OWE DOC!
I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT HAPPENED, BUT WE'VE DECIDED TO STAY IN PINE BLUFF! THOSE BIG, TOUGH HOMBRES ACTUALLY APOLOGIZED TO ME, KID!
THE FOLKS HERE JUST FINALLY GOT AROUND TO APPRECIATING HOW MUCH THEY NEED A GOOD DOCTOR!
HAYNES
THE END

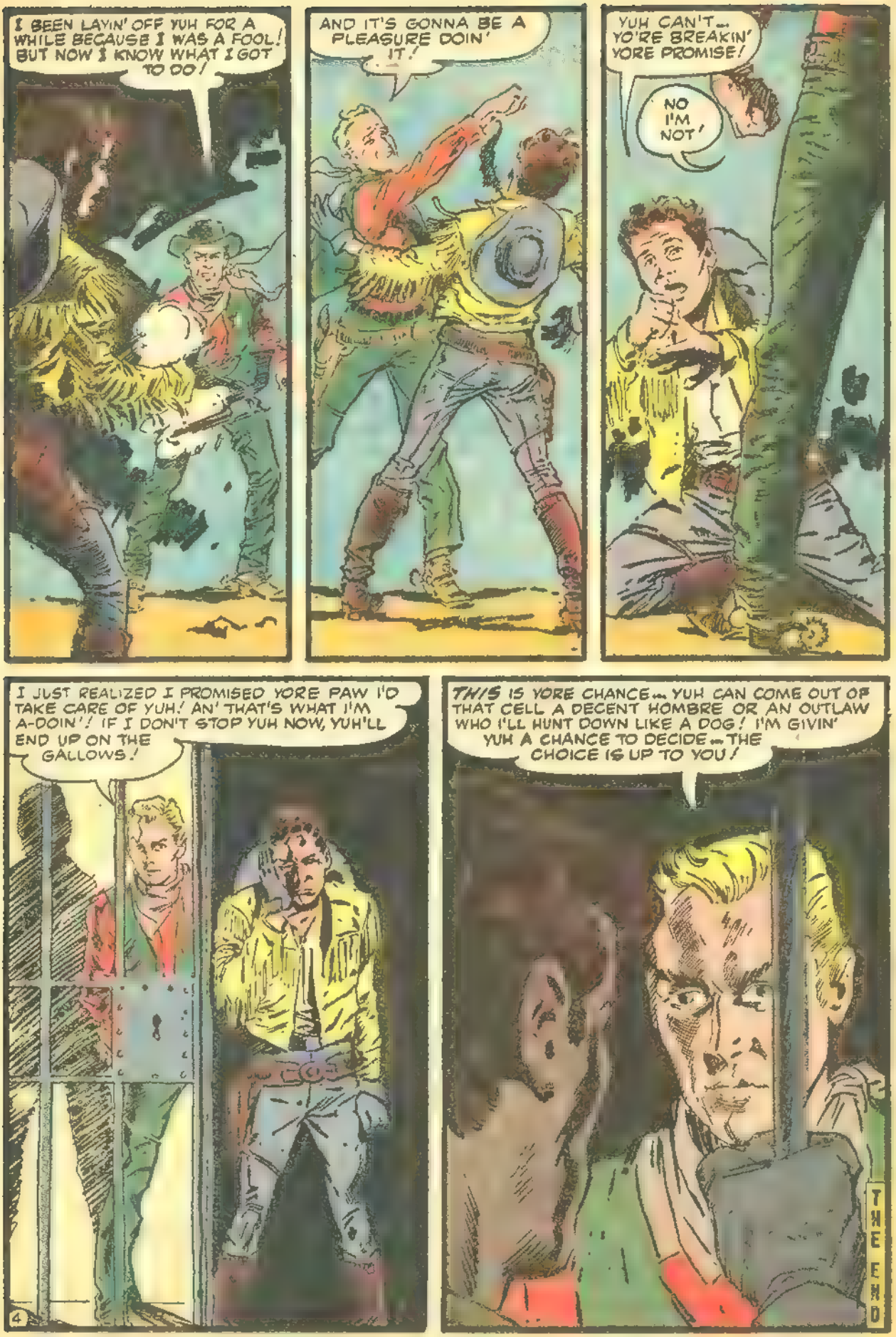
the PROMISE

JIM, I'M DYING, BUT BEFORE I GO...YUH GOTTA MAKE ME A PROMISE!
ANYTHING, MR. CORBETT!
Stan Lee


IT'S MUH SON CHANCE! GUESS I HAVEN'T BEEN TOO GOOD A FATHER...NEVER SPENT ENOUGH TIME WITH HIM...GUIDING HIM AS HE GREW UP! HE'S WILD... BUT HE'S MUH SON! PROMISE YOU'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!
MR CORBETT...YUH WERE MY FATHER'S BEST FRIEND! I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YUH... I PROMISE!

AT LEAST HE DIED HAPPY!
WELL, WELL! THAT WAS A MIGHTY TOUCHING SCENE!
SORRY I GOT HERE TOO LATE, SHERIFF!
WHY DIDN'T YUH GET HERE SOONER? HE WANTED TO SEE YUH!
I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS SO SICK!
YOU AIN'T FIT TO CALL YORESELF HIS SON!
MEBBE NOT... BUT I HEARD A PROMISE YUH MADE! I GUESS I CAN WHOOP IT UP A LOT MORE IN TOWN NOW THAT YO'RE TAKIN' CARE OF ME!
YUH DON'T EXPECT ME TO LET YUH GET AWAY WITH ANY-THING, DO YUH?
YEAH, I DO! I KNOW THAT A DUMB BADGE-TOTER LIKE YOU, DON'T BELIEVE IN BREAKING PROMISES!
2

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED...
WHAT'S COME OVER JIM HAWKES?
SHERIFF HAWKES NEVER STOOD FOR ANY OF CHANCE CORBETT'S SHENANIGANS BEFORE...SEEMS HE HAS THE SHERIFF SCARED OF HIM!
CHANCE, THE SHERIFF'S GOT A LAW AGIN MEN WEARIN' THEIR HARDWARE IN TOWN!
I DON'T GIVE A HANG ABOUT SHERIFF HAWKES, AND HE KNOWS IT!
HERE COMES THE SHERIFF NOW!
CHANCE! I WANTA TALK TO YUH!
OFFICE
GO AHEAD AND TALK, HAWKES... I'M LISTENIN'
I'M ORDERIN' YUH TO TAKE OFF YORE GUNS! IT AIN'T ALLOWED IN TOWN!
I RECKON I'LL KEEP 'EM ON...UNLESS YOU'RE GONNA TRY TO SHOOT 'EM OFF! BUT YOU WON'T BECAUSE OF YORE PROMISE!
THINK YOU GOT ME HOG-TIED, EH? DRAW!


I BEEN LAYIN' OFF YUH FOR A WHILE BECAUSE I WAS A FOOL! BUT NOW I KNOW WHAT I GOT TO DO!
AND IT'S GONNA BE A PLEASURE DOIN' IT!
YUH CAN'T... YO'RE BREAKIN' YORE PROMISE!
NO I'M NOT!
I JUST REALIZED I PROMISED YORE PAW I'D TAKE CARE OF YUH! AN' THAT'S WHAT I'M A-DOIN'! IF I DON'T STOP YUH NOW, YUH'LL END UP ON THE GALLOWS!
THIS IS YORE CHANCE... YUH CAN COME OUT OF THAT CELL A DECENT HOMBRE OR AN OUTLAW WHO I'LL HUNT DOWN LIKE A DOG! I'M GIVIN' YUH A CHANCE TO DECIDE... THE CHOICE IS UP TO YOU!
THE END
4

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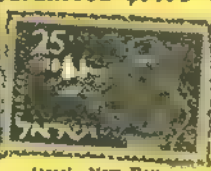

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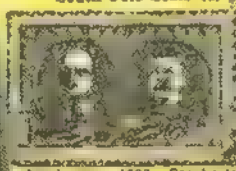

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New York 8, N. Y.

...CONTINUED

"I can't figure it, Dad," Frank said. "I saw Tom two or three times during the day, and all he did was ride around that homestead land and get off his cayuse a few times to collect some samples of soil."

"Soil?" his father said, puzzled. "Now what does he want with soil samples?"

"Maybe he's planning to raise something . . . like wheat for instance," Frank suggested.

"Tom . . . a farmer? Doesn't sound at all like him." He glanced round. "Wonder why he isn't back yet."

"Oh, he told me he was going in to Butteburg for the evening . . . " Just then the boy's head turned. "Here he comes now!"

A few moments later, Tom Wendel dismounted at the door. He was beaming.

"Want to see you in town, tomorrow, Joe," he said. Got a little surprise for you, I think."

"Surprise?" Joe asked. "Anything in connection with that homestead land?"

"Now, now!" his uncle said. "I'm not saying one more word!"

At precisely noon, Joe Wendel dismounted at the land office. His uncle was waiting outside.

"Here's big news!" Tom Wendel said. "I've just bought two thousand acres of that homestead land!"

"Two thousand acres!"

"Sure, and I've got bigger news!" Tom said. "There's gold on it!"

"Gold on it?" Joe said. "But listen, Tom . . . "

"Come on into the land office. I collected some soil samples and tested 'em for gold myself with a pocket kit yesterday, then brought 'em in to be assayed. 'Course, I didn't wait for the assay . . . I knew there was gold on the land. So I bought the land without delay!"

Dazed, Joe followed his uncle into the land office. One of the men present handed Tom Wendel an envelope. "Gold there all right, Mr. Wendel," the man said. "Naturally it's not present in commercial quantities, but . . . "

"Not present in commercial quantities?" Tom burst out.

"That's what I was tryin' to tell you, only you wouldn't listen," Joe broke in. "Everybody hereabouts knows there's gold all over the place. And we also know there just isn't enough of it to bother about trying to extract it!"

"You mean I went and bought two thousand acres of worthless land out of sheer haste and fat-headedness?" Tom Wendel said.

"Well, anybody can make a mistake," Joe said. "Even *you*, Tom. But you just haven't bought worthless land!"

"I . . . I haven't?"

"Certainly not! It's excellent land for cattle-grazing," Joe said. "And since you're goin' to be out here for some time anyway, all you have to do is to stock it with cattle to turn it into a cattle-ranch, and earn a good profit, just like I said. What's more, I'll help you!"

Tom Wendel laughed at himself good-naturedly.

"You're on, Joe," he said. "I've had enough excitement on hot air. Reckon I might as well have some on the hoof!"

THE END J-266

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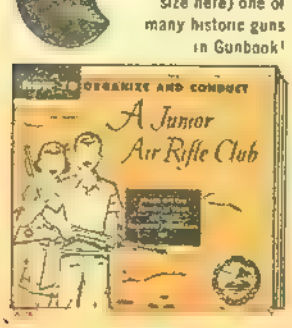

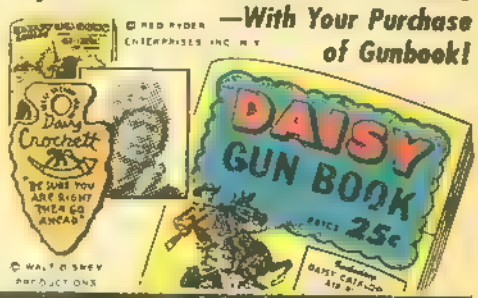

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Lowest price in history ..only our tremendous volume makes it possible. Let our wonderful new scientific method transform your old, discolored, damaged plate into a beautiful lustrous Gum Gripper Plate of fine stainless, genuine Dupont Beauti-Lux Plastic. ONE DAY SERVICE GUARANTEED.
FREE! Now You Get FULL YEAR GUARANTEE against breakage
SEND NO MONEY—Rush name, address for full details sent **FREE**. Mention if your present plate is LOOSE, so we can show you how to make it comfortable before duplication. Write today.
WEST DENTAL LABORATORY, Dept. L 175,
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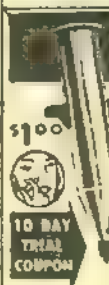
UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT IN SECONDS



$1.00
10 DAY TRIAL COUPON

Keep your complexion free of blackheads — look attractive instantly. Scientifically designed suction head gently "lifts" out ugly blackheads safely, without pinching or squeezing. Try VACUTEX 10 days—if not delighted return for $1 refund.
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19 West 44th St. N.Y. 36, N.Y.
☐ Enclosed find $1.00. Send postpaid.
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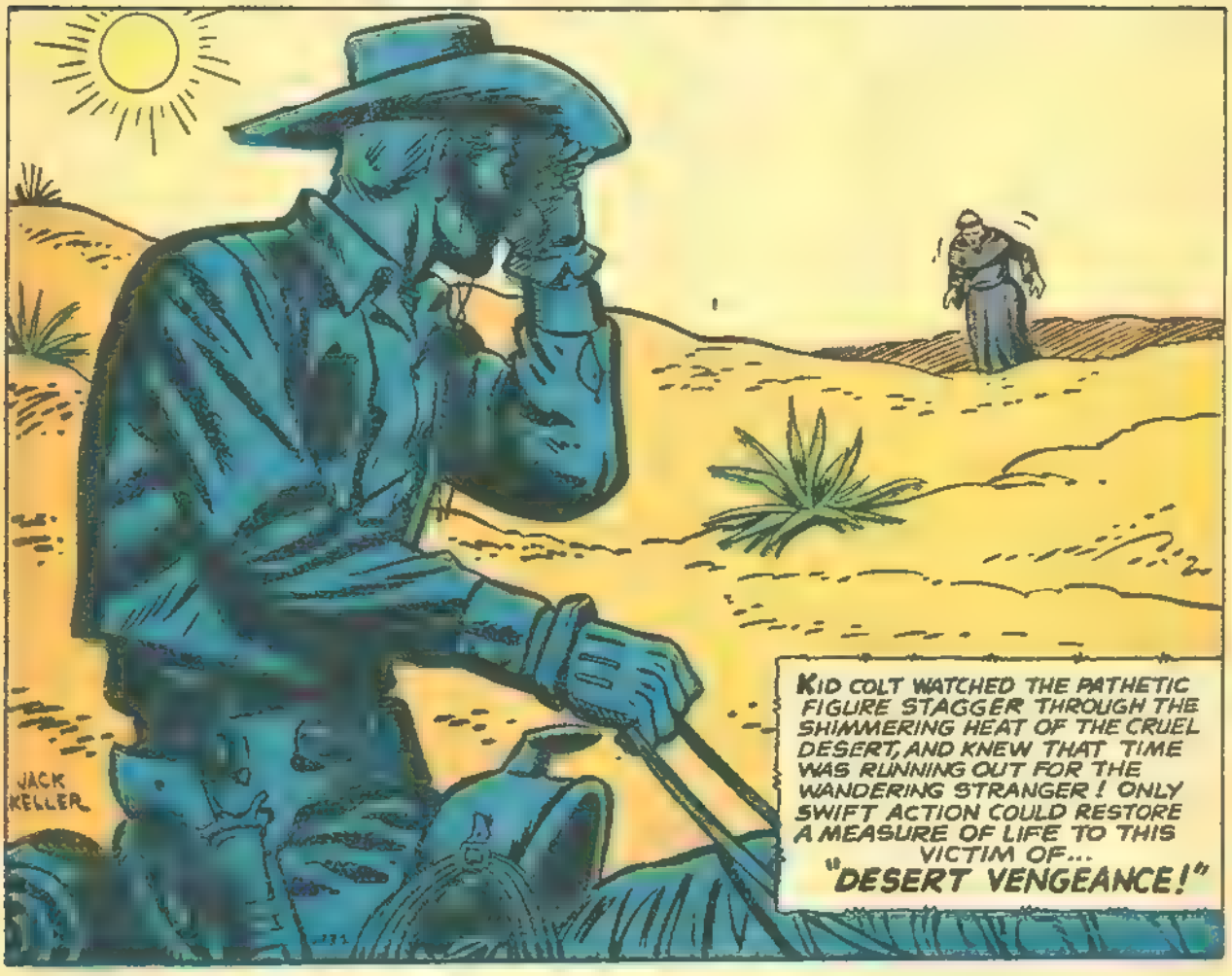
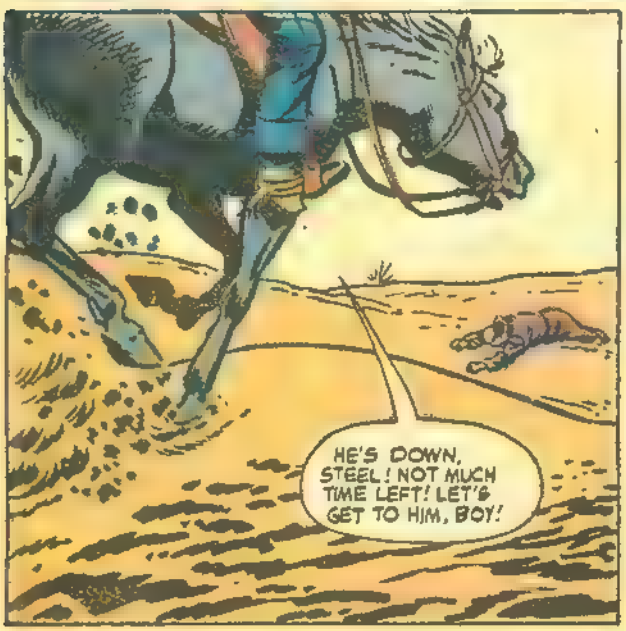
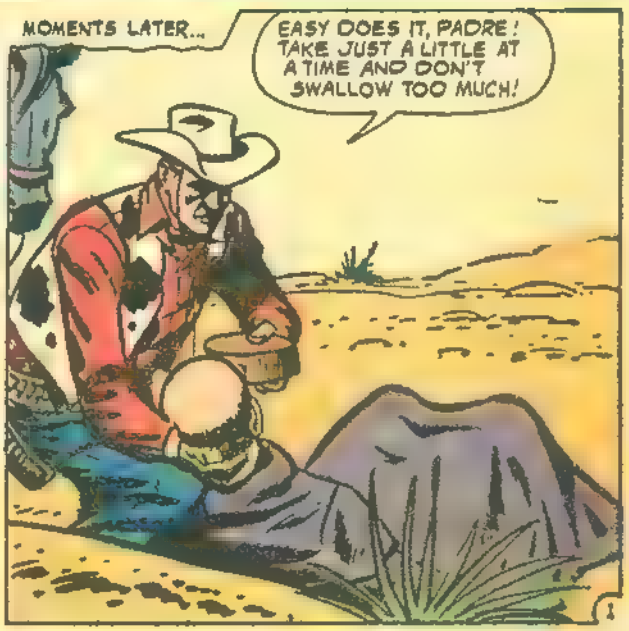
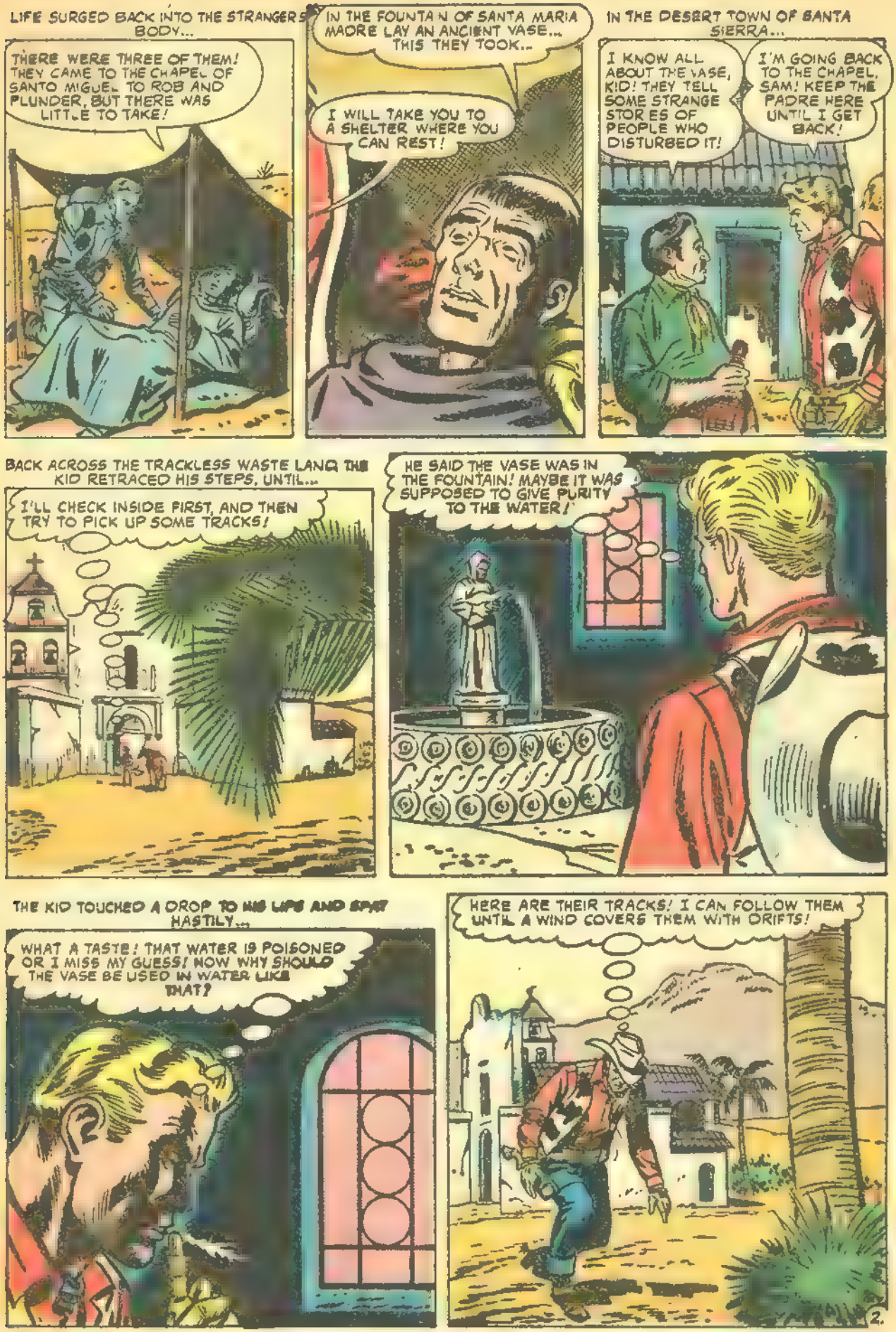
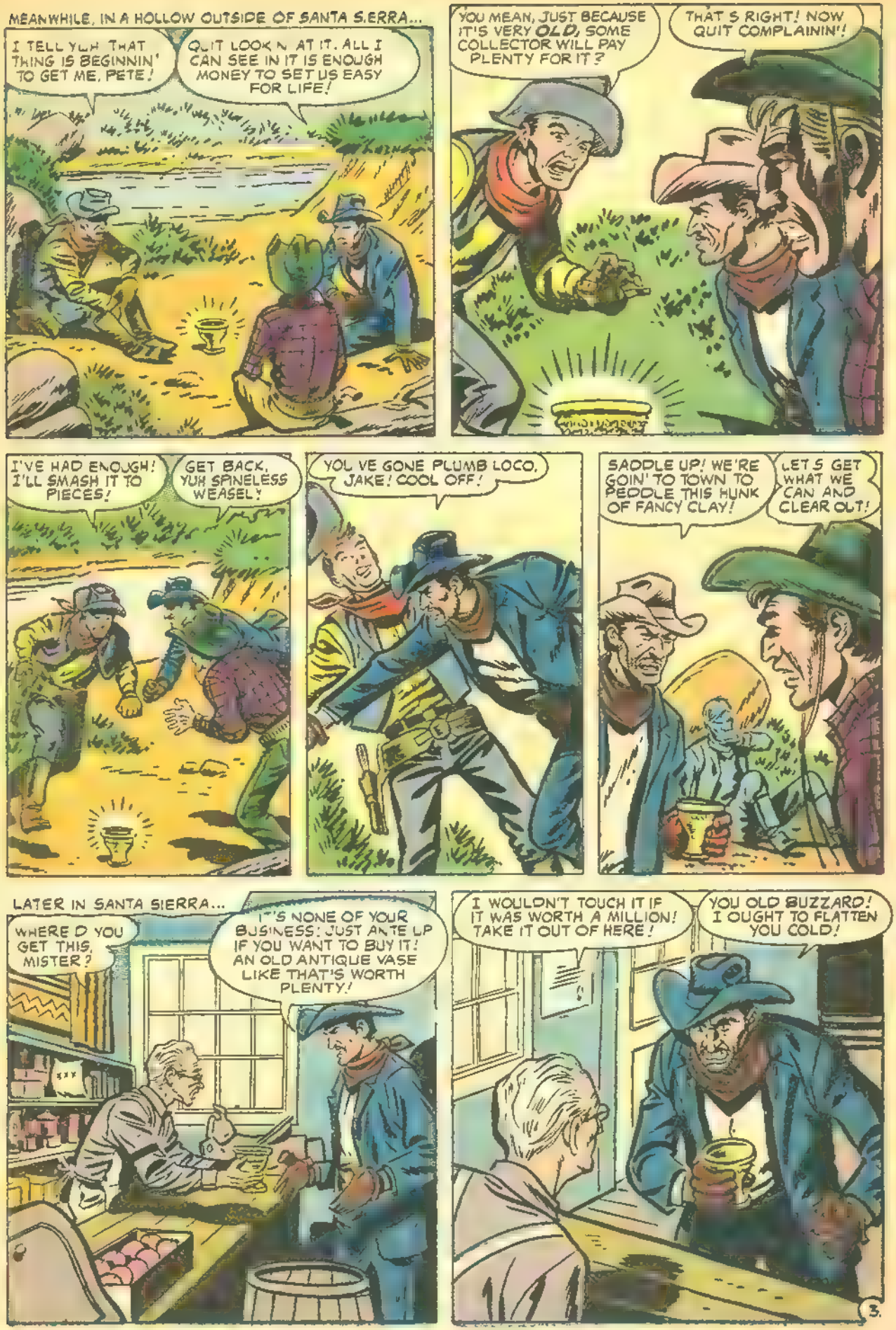
KID COLT OUTLAW


JACK KELLER
KID COLT WATCHED THE PATHETIC FIGURE STAGGER THROUGH THE SHIMMERING HEAT OF THE CRUEL DESERT, AND KNEW THAT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT FOR THE WANDERING STRANGER! ONLY SWIFT ACTION COULD RESTORE A MEASURE OF LIFE TO THIS VICTIM OF...
"DESERT VENGEANCE!"

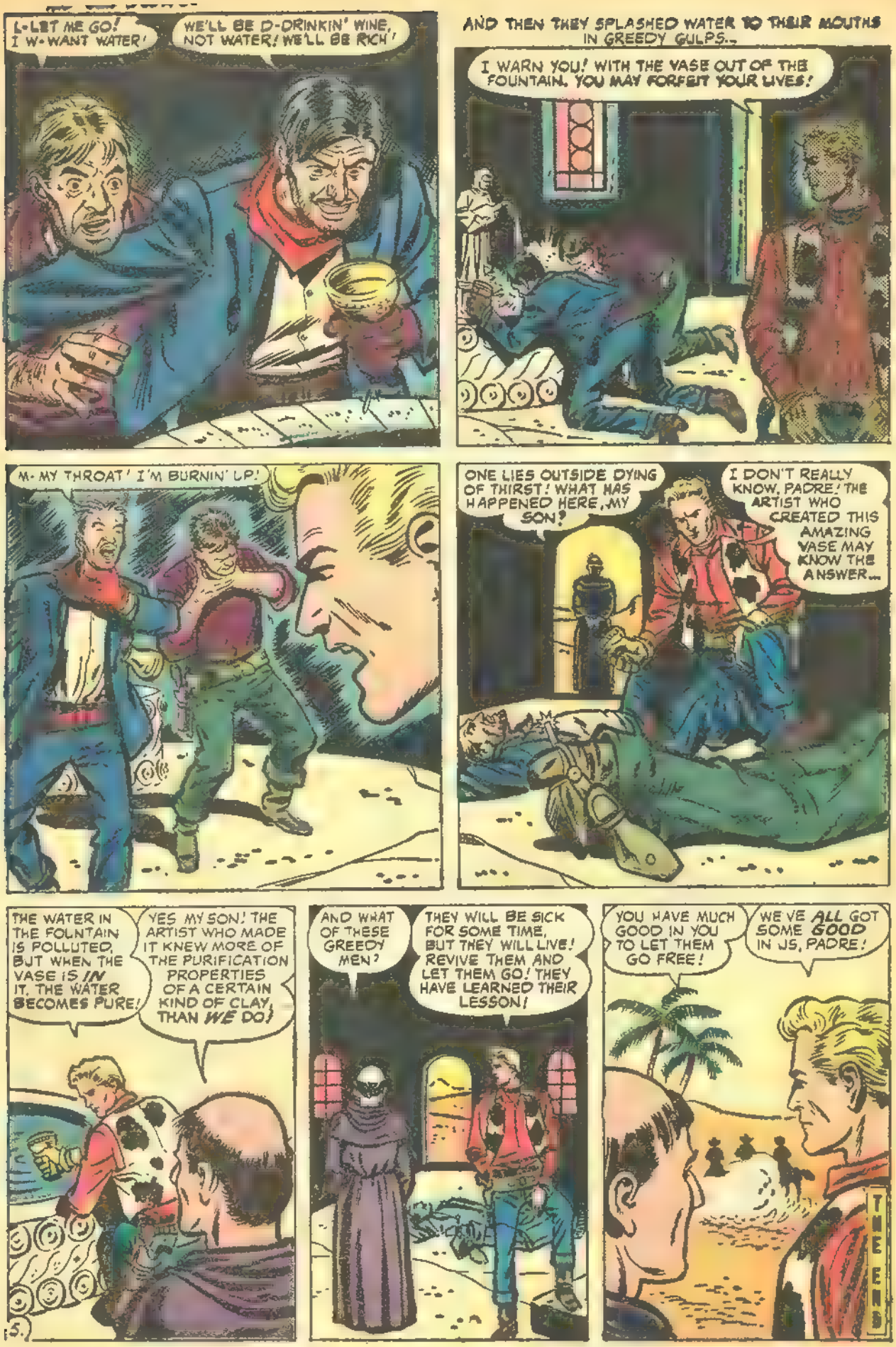





LIFE SURGED BACK INTO THE STRANGER'S BODY...
THERE WERE THREE OF THEM! THEY CAME TO THE CHAPEL OF SANTO MIGUEL TO ROB AND PLUNDER, BUT THERE WAS LITTLE TO TAKE!
IN THE FOUNTAIN OF SANTA MARIA MADRE LAY AN ANCIENT VASE... THIS THEY TOOK...
I WILL TAKE YOU TO A SHELTER WHERE YOU CAN REST!
IN THE DESERT TOWN OF SANTA SIERRA...
I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE VASE, KID! THEY TELL SOME STRANGE STORIES OF PEOPLE WHO DISTURBED IT!
I'M GOING BACK TO THE CHAPEL, SAM! KEEP THE PADRE HERE UNTIL I GET BACK!
BACK ACROSS THE TRACKLESS WASTE LAND THE KID RETRACED HIS STEPS, UNTIL...
I'LL CHECK INSIDE FIRST, AND THEN TRY TO PICK UP SOME TRACKS!
HE SAID THE VASE WAS IN THE FOUNTAIN! MAYBE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO GIVE PURITY TO THE WATER!
THE KID TOUCHED A DROP TO HIS LIPS AND SPAT HASTILY...
WHAT A TASTE! THAT WATER IS POISONED OR I MISS MY GUESS! NOW WHY SHOULD THE VASE BE USED IN WATER LIKE THAT?
HERE ARE THEIR TRACKS! I CAN FOLLOW THEM UNTIL A WIND COVERS THEM WITH DRIFTS!
2.

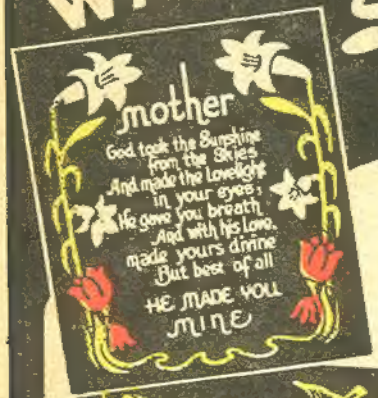

MEANWHILE, IN A HOLLOW OUTSIDE OF SANTA S.ERRA...
I TELL YUH THAT THING IS BEGINNIN' TO GET ME, PETE!
QUIT LOOK'N AT IT. ALL I CAN SEE IN IT IS ENOUGH MONEY TO SET US EASY FOR LIFE!
YOU MEAN, JUST BECAUSE IT'S VERY OLD, SOME COLLECTOR WILL PAY PLENTY FOR IT?
THAT'S RIGHT! NOW QUIT COMPLAININ'!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I'LL SMASH IT TO PIECES!
GET BACK, YUH SPINELESS WEASEL!
YOU'VE GONE PLUMB LOCO, JAKE! COOL OFF!
SADDLE UP! WE'RE GOIN' TO TOWN TO PEDDLE THIS HUNK OF FANCY CLAY!
LET'S GET WHAT WE CAN AND CLEAR OUT!
LATER IN SANTA SIERRA...
WHERE D YOU GET THIS, MISTER?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS: JUST ANTE UP IF YOU WANT TO BUY IT! AN OLD ANTIQUE VASE LIKE THAT'S WORTH PLENTY!
I WOULDN'T TOUCH IT IF IT WAS WORTH A MILLION! TAKE IT OUT OF HERE!
YOU OLD BUZZARD! I OUGHT TO FLATTEN YOU COLD!
3.

TOWARD THE END OF THAT DAY...
IT JUST AIN'T NO USE, PETE! NOBODY WANTS IT AT ANY PRICE!
IT'S LIKE I SAID... THE THING IS JINXED!
NOBODY WANTS IT! WE'LL BE BETTER OFF IF WE GET RID OF IT! TOSS SOME WOOD ON THE FIRE, JAKE!
YOU MUST BE LOCO IF YOU SPOIL IT, WE'LL BE R.D.N' OUR LOOT TO BOOT HILL!
SUDDENLY, THE BANDITS LOOKED UP INTO THE MUZZLES OF TWIN SIX-GUNS...
FREEZE AND KEEP YOUR HANDS CLEAN! I'LL SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS BY TAKING THAT VASE!
WHAT! YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
I'M PUTTING THIS VASE BACK WHERE IT CAME FROM!
WE'LL GRAB IT AGAIN!
THE SUN ROSE THE NEXT MORNING, ITS RAYS SCORCHING THREE DESPERATE MEN...
YUH FOOL! THAT'S THE LAST WATER YUH GET T'LL WE REACH THE CHAPEL!
MEBBE THAT RANNY WAS BLUFFIN'! MEBBE WE'RE WASTIN' OUR TIME!
BUT THE SUN BROILED DOWN, SHATTERING ALL REASON AND WILL POWER...
A F-FEW MORE YARDS! THERE'S... W-WATER INSIDE!
JAKE IS FINISHED! HE CAN'T M-MAKE IT AN' I AIN'T STOPPIN' T-TO HELP HIM!
THE VASE! IT'S THERE LIKE HE SAID! I'LL GET IT OUT!
ALL... I.. WANT IS... W-WATER!
4


L-LET ME GO! I W-WANT WATER!
WE'LL BE D-DRINKIN' WINE, NOT WATER! WE'LL BE RICH!
AND THEN THEY SPLASHED WATER TO THEIR MOUTHS IN GREEDY GULPS...
I WARN YOU! WITH THE VASE OUT OF THE FOUNTAIN, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR LIVES!
M-MY THROAT! I'M BURNIN' UP!
ONE LIES OUTSIDE DYING OF THIRST! WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE, MY SON?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW, PADRE! THE ARTIST WHO CREATED THIS AMAZING VASE MAY KNOW THE ANSWER...
THE WATER IN THE FOUNTAIN IS POLLUTED, BUT WHEN THE VASE IS IN IT, THE WATER BECOMES PURE!
YES MY SON! THE ARTIST WHO MADE IT KNEW MORE OF THE PURIFICATION PROPERTIES OF A CERTAIN KIND OF CLAY, THAN WE DO!
AND WHAT OF THESE GREEDY MEN?
THEY WILL BE SICK FOR SOME TIME, BUT THEY WILL LIVE! REVIVE THEM AND LET THEM GO! THEY HAVE LEARNED THEIR LESSON!
YOU HAVE MUCH GOOD IN YOU TO LET THEM GO FREE!
WE'VE ALL GOT SOME GOOD IN US, PADRE!
THE END

DO YOU WANT SPENDING MONEY?

Sell these popular Patriotic and Religious Mottoes


mother
God took the Sunshine from the Skies
And made the Lovelight in your eyes;
He gave you breath
And with his Love,
made yours divine
But best of all
HE MADE YOU MINE

CHILD'S PRAYER
Now I Lay me down To Sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should Die before I Wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take

SEND US NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35¢ each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25¢ for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP $2.50

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP $3.00

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP $4.00

REMEMBER: No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottoes you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.

WRITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS TO

STEPHENS CREDIT SALES

Dept. M M P. O. Box 1004

Nashville , Tennessee

DELLA SCOTT
722 STAPLES AVENUE
KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Awhile ago I tried for one of these scholarships. I didn't think my sketch could win, but it did! I am learning a lot from the Art Course and am already working full time as an artist.

Della M Scott

April 21, 1955

Draw Me...

Try For A Free 2-Year Art Scholarship Worth $375.00

Do you like to doodle? Do you make little sketches whenever you have a pencil in your hand? Then you may have talent worth training. Enter this drawing contest! You may win two years of free training for a successful career in advertising art, illustrating or cartooning.

Many well-paid artists today have studied with this art school. It's the world's largest home study art school, founded 40 years ago. It's a member of the National Home Study Council, Washington, D.C.

You're trained by professional artists. You get individual coaching, personal guidance, step-by-step instruction.

As prize winner, you also receive a professional drawing outfit, and a series of valuable art textbooks. Make your sketch of the "Draw Me" girl today!

Draw this girl's head 5 inches high. Use pencil only. All drawings must be received by April 30, 1956. None returned. Winner notified. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible.

USE 1 COUPON
THEN PASS THIS PAGE
ON TO A FRIEND!

3. **ART INSTRUCTION, INC.,** Studio 3946-3
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____

County_____ State_____

Occupation_____ Phone_____

2. **ART INSTRUCTION, INC.,** Studio 3946-2
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____

County_____ State_____

Occupation_____ Phone_____

1. **ART INSTRUCTION, INC.,** Studio 3946-1
500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____

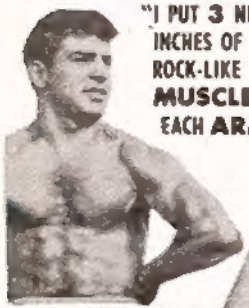
County_____ State_____

Occupation_____ Phone_____

TONY PASCARELLA

BEFORE "Here's me—a bag-of-bones weakling before I mailed the coupon."

AFTER "I ADDED 3 NEW INCHES TO MY CHEST." "I PUT 3 NEW INCHES OF ROCK-LIKE MUSCLE ON EACH ARM!



Like Tony YOU can be a GOLD MEDAL WINNER in

ALL SPORTS

It's easy with Jowett Training! Mail Coupon To See How!

WOW! What an AMAZING HE-MAN TONY IS *NOW!*

He gained **28** MUSCLE-PACKED POUNDS all over! Won NEW HANDSOME LOOKS . . . NEW POPULARITY.

World's Greatest Builder of HE-MEN

Shows YOU How in **10** MINUTES OF FUN A DAY!

"You should have seen SKINNY ME only a few WEEKS AGO!"

COME ON PAL! Now YOU make me prove it! Give my easy, quick course just 10 pleasant minutes a day in your own home like Tony did. In a few short weeks your puny, old frame will come alive with smooth, giant HE-MAN MUSCLES and POWER to make you PROUD!

WIN CHEERS Not JEERS

On the beach, in the gym, on the job, in ALL sports your new rippling, strong-as-iron muscles, new jetline body will win envy, admiration, bring you SUCCESS. Tested and proved Jowett training will bring you new men and women friends, new popularity everywhere you go.

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are. I'll make you OVER by the SAME secret method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. I can do for you what I do each year for MANY THOUSANDS of weaklings like Tony was.

DEVELOP YOUR 520 MIGHTY MUSCLES

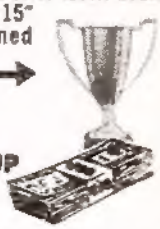
Gain or Lose Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll ADD INCHES of shapely MUSCLES to your skinny ARMS and CHEST . . . see your fat melt away to a HARD, SOLID body in fighting trim. Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain in LOOKS, SIZE, STAMINA, SEX APPEAL . . . you'll be "top kick" in SPORTS, BUSINESS, in anything you tackle!

GET STARTED *NOW!* MAIL COUPON

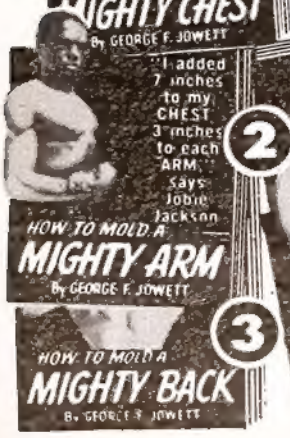
Stop WISHING! You can do it. Mail NOW the ALL-FREE coupon below as I did. Get ALL 5 BOOKS FREE (millions sold for $1.00) while limited offer lasts. Learn HOW you can WIN $100 and a big 15" silver cup as a Jowett trained CHAMPION!

YOU CAN WIN A BIG 15" TALL SILVER CHAMPION CUP and $100 IN CASH as I just did!



GET GOING, PAL! Mail coupon to get FREE 5 PICTURE-PACKED HE-MAN BOOKS. Limited offer. Millions sold at $1.00. Act before price goes back.

ALL 5 BIG BOOKS YOURS! COUNT THEM!


"I added 7 inches to my CHEST 3 inches to each ARM" says Jobie Jackson
2
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY ARM
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
3
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY BACK
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4
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP
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HOW TO MOLD MIGHTY LEGS
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